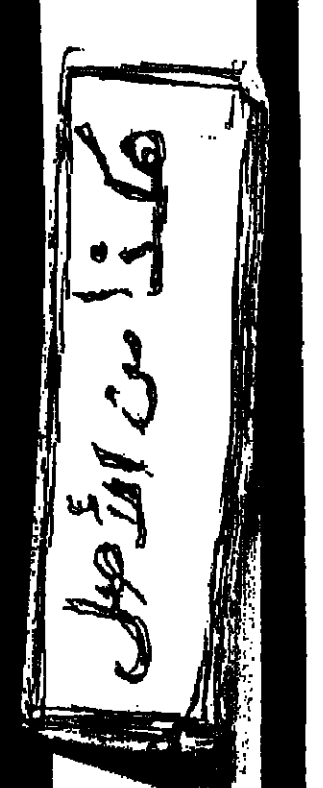


The German Tribune

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Transatlantic ties are not in the best of condition

KielerNachrichten

Some Common Market countries are *said to have an immense aptitude for* diplomacy, yet little is in evidence when the 12 European Community countries finally succeed in framing joint viewpoints on international affairs.

The latest round of resolutions reached by European Community Foreign Ministers was a case in point.

They snubbed President Reagan, albeit with good reason, in his glowing desire to call Colonel Gaddafi of Libya to order for his alleged role as a terrorist chief.

Instead of measures against Libya as called for by the United States the Twelve prefer to join forces with Arab and Islamic moderates in fighting terrorism.

There may be good reasons for this restraint by the European Community, but music speaks louder than words. Did the Foreign Ministers have to decide on retaliatory tariffs against US exports that same evening?

Does no-one stop to think how such clumsiness is seen in Washington? Nato's European supreme commander, General Bernard Rogers, has surely made it clear how much depends on finding the right tone in dealing with American democracy.

"We here in Europe," the US four-star general said, "would do well to take much greater care over details in dealing with Congress and as many individual Congressmen as possible. We must do so in the interest of Western unity."

Given tension between Europe and America, Nato cannot be said to be in the best of condition, although the malaise relates more to the outfield than to the infield of alliance issues.

The European Community now threatens to impose retaliatory tariffs on US exports to the Common Market until the end of 1988. In terms of overall US trade with the Community, which totalled DM138bn in 1984, [illegible] pinprick is neither here nor there for the United States.

Besides, there is a copper-bottomed argument in support of this European move: the United States has breached Gatt rules to penalise imports of semi-finished steel products from Europe to the same amount.

The background is extremely thought-provoking. About a quarter of US steel consumption is imported, so competition from imports cuts deep.

But higher steel imports are due to US manufacturers being less able to compete, and the same goes for other products.

Otto Wolff von Amerongen, president of the Standing Conference of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry, told the Americans back in 1973 they had only themselves to blame in many respects.

The farm policy clashes between the United States and the European Community must also be seen against the background of US subsidies to American farmers along lines roughly similar to European Community subsidies to Common Market farmers.

These disputes impose a burden on transatlantic alliance ties. General Rogers says he invariably has to adopt a defensive stance in the Midwest.

US farmers pay about 25 per cent of their taxes toward the cost of defence,

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Coming in from the cold

Soldiers posted on a bone-chilling day at the bridge between Berlin and Potsdam where East Bloc spies were due to be swapped for Westerners and the Soviet dissident Anatoli Shcharanski. (Photo: dpa)



Barefoot in Burma

German head of state Richard von Weizsäcker, barefoot in keeping with Buddhist tradition, sounds a lucky bell at the Shwedagon Pagoda, a hallmark of the Burmese capital, Rangoon. (Photo: dpa)

France and Germany are unequal partners

The grand design is missing. Franco-German military collaboration has little to do with strategy. Strategy is indeed deliberately excluded. France and Germany, one is bound to say, are unequal partners. France is a nuclear power, whereas the Federal Republic is conventionally armed and, in military *terms*, a nuclear have-not. Germany has no influence on the military uses of atomic energy by the terms of the "alliance within an *alliance*" concluded with France in 1963. The French have no intention of changing this state of affairs, and all Franco-German summit meetings are overshadowed by this contradiction. Via Nato's Nuclear Planning Group Bonn has achieved something resembling a say in target planning. America has allowed its Nato ally Germany a say in the choice of nuclear targets and decisions on timing possible use. Not so the French. After his last meeting with Chancellor Kohl President Mitterrand repeated that for him the atom was indivisible.

France's nuclear *force de frappe* was a unit answerable to the French head of state. It was for him to decide where and when strategic nuclear weapons were used.

France continues to see its territory as a "sanctuary" and aims to keep this "national island" out of any full-scale Nato conflict *for as long as possible.*

It is also convinced the French nuclear deterrent would, in the event of an emergency, enable France to sue for partial peace.

These are options the French would like at all costs to retain. As the *force de frappe* is a miniature nuclear force, all available cash reserves are to be invested in it.

The conventional army is seen as playing no more than a subordinate role.

Signs a few months ago of French rapprochement to German views seem to have been no more than a psycho-strategic ploy.

Germany has certainly not sounded out the possibility energetically enough even though France knows we feel uneasy about French nuclear policy.

That is why the French psychological counter-offensive includes many spectacular offers, including joint training of French and German officers, which can only be welcomed.

But moves of this kind avoid the nub of the issue. Geographical proximity calls for a coordinated nuclear deterrent strategy on both sides of the Rhine.

Adalbert Weinstein

(Welt am Sonntag, Hamburg, 2 February 1986)

Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, the black South African Opposition leader, who is in Frankfurt and Bonn for talks, is meeting President von Weizsäcker and Chancellor Kohl for the first time.

The talks are a departure from Bonn's previous non-committal policy toward South Africa and clearly support middle-of-the-road, moderate policies in South Africa in the face of left- and right-wing extremism.

In the past Bonn leaders have been reluctant to hold talks with Buthelezi, the foremost representative of a policy of peaceful settlement, for fear of being criticised by more radical politicians in South Africa.

The Chancellor's Office is said to have been impressed on learning that foreign politicians who conferred with Chief Buthelezi as a spokesman for black South Africans last year alone included President Reagan, Mrs Thatcher, Shimon Peres and Senator Kennedy.

Now Buthelezi has been welcomed, other middle-of-the-road black South African leaders are likely to be invited to Bonn.

Nobel laureate Bishop Tutu may be invited by Foreign Minister Genscher. So may leaders of the African National Congress in exile, which resorts to violence.

In addition to the President and the Chancellor, Buthelezi is to meet Foreign Minister Genscher, Economic Cooperation Minister Warnke, members of the Bundestag foreign affairs committee, another group of about 30 MPs and Roman Catholic and Protestant church leaders.

Chief Buthelezi was invited to the Federal Republic by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, which backs development aid projects in KwaZulu/Natal. He is Prime Minister of KwaZulu homeland.

He owes his strength and authority less to *this than to his political and dynastic leadership of the six million Zulus*, the largest national group in South Africa.

He also the Inkatha president and leader of an alliance of it and other black and coloured South African parties.

Inkatha membership now exceeds a million and continues to grow rapidly. It is the largest movement of its kind in South Africa's history.

To mark Chief Buthelezi's visit CDU general secretary Heiner Geissler is to present a CDU human rights documentation on South Africa.

This 130- to 140-page documentation will condemn the system of apartheid, or institutionalised racial discrimination in South Africa, as a breach of fundamental human rights.

It will also mention reform moves under President Botha.

The CDU issued a human rights documentation on Afghanistan at the end of December, following it in January with another on Chile.

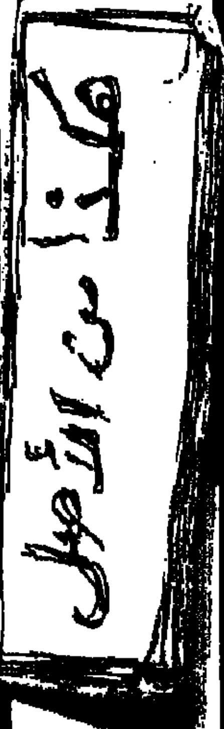
A report on Nicaragua has already been published and one on the Soviet Union completed. A further documentation on Cambodia is being considered.

The aim is to show that the CDU, of which the Konrad Adenauer Foundation is a research wing, is concerned with human rights all over the world and regardless of a regime's political orientation.

The reports will also, it is hoped, help to canvass support for the Christian Democrats among young people in the 1987 general election campaign.

Bonn hopes Chief Buthelezi will have specific recommendations for European governments on how they can best help to bring about rapid, indispensable change in South Africa.

He is opposed to Western economic sanctions against Pretoria because they would mainly affect blacks. Besides, he sees the economy as one of the strongest forces for change in South Africa.



■ **AFRICA**

Bonn backs the moderates in South Africa



He recently told bankers in London "exploitative businessmen" were to *blame for his country's current crisis. In* the past they had been more concerned with profits than with social justice.

Yet free enterprise was still the most efficient system by which to promote economic development and so fight unemployment, underemployment, hunger, disease and poor education.

At almost the same time as his speech the South African Association of Chambers of Industry presented the government in Pretoria with a far-reaching package of political and economic reforms as part of what it termed a charter of social, political and economic rights.

It called for the introduction of universal suffrage in South Africa, with due consideration for minority rights, and for the repeal of all remaining apartheid legislation, the release of political prisoners and the lifting of the state of emergency.

The business community might, Chief Buthelezi said, have a major intermediary part to play in reform negotiations.

In London he told a Commons subcommittee he would also serve under a President Mandela if South African voters so wished at the polls.

ANC leader Nelson Mandela has been imprisoned near Cape Town for over 20 years. Buthelezi has often demanded his release. Mandela is known recently to have sent him a cordial letter making no mention of far-reaching political demands.

Among South Africa's fragmented black Opposition ANC-Inkatha relations are paramount.

Until about two years ago they were characterised by mutual, albeit distant, respect. Relations have lately deteriorated on both sides.

That may be a consequence of clashing views on violence and economic sanctions (Chief Buthelezi is against both); it may also be part of the struggle for post-white rule power.

There are growing signs that not only the white Opposition and the business community but also at least part of the South African government seems to be preparing for life in South Africa under a President Buthelezi.

Time magazine says a political settlement of conflicts in South Africa is inconceivable without him. South African TV has lately launched a Zulu for whites language programme.

Jeune Afrique, Paris, wondered disdainfully whether it might not have been better to screen lessons in Xhosa, the language of Mandela and other ANC leaders.

Buthelezi would thus seem fairly unlikely to share power unless the ANC had at least been offered the opportunity of sharing it with him.

If he went it alone he must surely be even more afraid than he has been of forfeiting support among young black extremists.

His views on freeing Mandela are bound to interest the Bonn head of state, who in his 1985 Christmas address called for the release of *Rudolf* Hess, Andrei Sakharov and Nelson Mandela.

The state-run South African Radio, which is keen on pillorying alleged falsification of conditions in South Africa in the Western Press, promptly mentioned Hess and Sakharov, but not Mandela, in its new bulletins.

Herr von Weizsäcker received about 400 letters in response to his Christmas address; roughly 100 dealt with Mandela. About one third approved of what he had said and two thirds disapproved.

Yet as nearly all the disapproving letters were mailed several days after the others, they could be the result of concerted action by groups friendly toward South Africa.

Robert von Lucius

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 29 January 1986)

New-look aid brings only brief respite

A year after the nationwide Africa appeal a more sober view prevails despite the defeat of famine for the time *being in most drought-stricken coun*tries of the Sahel belt.

Private donations by the million and government aid by the billion have worked, and a number of fears and suspicions have been disproven.

The aid has benefited the needy, who have not stayed in makeshift camps as permanent recipients of free relief.

As soon as they felt strong enough, farmers returned to their villages with seed for sowing in their barren fields.

Aid workers who had hoped the worldwide famine relief campaign might foster greater awareness among the prosperous public and governments in Western industrial countries of the long-term ramifications of aid to the Third World have been bitterly disappointed.

Pictures of starving people are easier to understand than problems of productivity or balance-of-payments difficulties.

Yet they are the crux of gloomy forecasts on Africa's future. Scarcely saved from a famine crisis, African countries are being plunged into a serious debt crisis.

Their combined debts total an estimated DM500bn or more, which falls well short of the debts of Mexico and Brazil alone, yet it threatens to paralyse Africa's feeble economy.

States south of the Sahara have no export earnings worth mentioning from which they can hope to support the burden of debt, let alone reduce it.

In some cases their development loan repayment commitments exceed the volume of new loans.

That leaves little or no leeway for imports of energy, fertiliser or spare parts, not to mention financing essential development work.

Unimpeded population growth alone may well outweigh aid efforts from outside black Africa.

Besides, the failure of economic experiments has paralysed what used to be flourishing industries and ruined what used to be sound government finances.

Ujamaa socialism has plunged Tanzania into crisis; so has Togo's growth fetish along capitalist lines.

Bonn is to concentrate its aid to Africa on six to eight countries that ready for reform, their governments having accepted the drastic cures prescribed by the International Monetary Fund.

They include traditionally pro-Western states such as Zambia, but even states that are more difficult to pigeonhole, such as Ghana, have gained fresh goodwill among financiers by virtue of their readiness to tighten belts a notch or two.

The crux of reforms is invariably the deregulation of foodstuff prices kept artificially low, which regularly leads to serious social tension.

Higher earnings [illegible] farmers to step up production, but industrial countries themselves counteract this beneficial effect.

Surplus foodgrain shipments by the United States and the European Community are lethal competition for African farmers.

Bonn is following in Washington's footsteps in seeing its own economic system as a model for Third World development.

Hailed by President Reagan as an economic revolution, this new approach is increasingly forcing the United States to go it alone in development policy. Funds pledged to international organisations have been withdrawn.

Bilateral aid is the new magic spell: aid from one country to another without a detour via the joint financial arrangements of donor countries.

Yet was that really a detour? Can project coordination and exchange of experience on joint commissions be dispensed with entirely?

The Federal Republic of Germany has followed suit in refusing to contribute toward an Africa fund launched at the World Bank by France and the Scandinavian countries.

In the European Community there are growing signs of fiercer competition between the Commission in Brussels and governments of member-countries for control over development programmes.

It is probably still too soon for a final ruling on whether the new trend will stem the tide of decline south of the Sahara or accelerate the catastrophe.

The Organisation of African Unity has voiced misgivings about the change of course on the most straight[illegible] grounds.

The new-look US aid, for instance, may be hailed by the American Press as a rediscovery of Africa, but its total is much lower than the contribution originally pledged by the United States to international aid for the continent.

Peter Meroth

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 27 January 1986)

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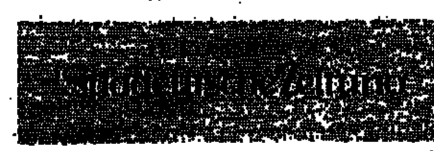
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■ **AMERICA**

Social Democrat Johannes Rau meets America



The question US congressman Hal Daub and his neighbours at table would have really liked to ask their guest of honour in the Speaker's Dining Room, Social Democrat Johannes Rau, was whether he stood a chance of becoming Chancellor in Bonn next year.

Their sense of courtesy prevented them from doing so.

Yet Johannes Rau well knows the answer to this question is the main reason for the interest shown in him wherever he stops off during his visit to the United States.

Anticipating the question he told the 10 Congressmen on Capitol Hill how he sees the situation.

He is *Land* premier in the most populous German state, North Rhine-Westphalia, an experienced election campaigner and convinced that next year's general election will be close.

"We already know the election will be a tough one", said Rau.

As the SPD's candidate for Chancellor, he has flown to America to sound out the political situation and state his and his party's position before the general election campaign really gets off the ground back home.

Rau is giving his party flank cover in a field in which the SPD has always had problems in the past.

Relations between the SPD and Washington suffered considerably as a result of the disputes over missile deployment in Central Europe.

Johannes Rau now hopes to take advantage of the hopeful mood in the wake of the Reagan-Gorbachov Geneva summit and to overcome existing hostilities.

Before setting out on his mission Rau emphasised what he regards as the determinant triad of relations with the United States: common sense, partnership and friendship.

And he added that, if he had his way, discussions should not be about the alliance, but within it.

Rau's message is that the period of the petty dogged enmities between the Social Democrats and Ronald Reagan's Republicans should come to an end.

Furthermore, he feels that anti-Americanism is no longer a relevant issue.

Following a breakfast meeting in the Senate which [illegible] by right-wing Republican Strom Thurmond, Rau willingly reaffirmed the opinion expressed by his host, Senator Mathias of Maryland, a man regarded as a liberal.

"German-American relations," he said, "are stable and will remain so, regardless who is in power on either side of the Atlantic."

Johannes Rau is not a man who twists his words and views to suit others, as has become clear during this visit.

He does not feel he should be ashamed of being called a friend of the Americans, and he has no difficulty in striking a conciliatory note.

Whenever he is asked whether his SPD colleagues at home might not take offence at such an open stance Rau counters by referring to the party programme adopted by the Social Democrats.

SPD policy is no to American space arms plans and yes to attempts by the SPD to "negotiate away" medium-range missiles both East and West deployed in Europe.

Above all, it is the way in which Rau states his position that allows his opposite numbers in talks to accept it.

Even during his talk in the strictly conservative American Enterprise Institute his words are carefully chosen:

"For us Europeans, and in particular for us Social Democrats, it is — as you will appreciate — an important objective to remove the Eurostrategic weapons via negotiations".

One reporter asked Rau whether he feels that he and Ronald Reagan are kindred spirits in terms of political style.

In Rau's opinion, however, any such comparison is overstretched: "You know, since the story of creation there have only been originals and no copies in the human race".

This became all too clear on the evening on which he watched President Reagan's state-of-the-nation address on TV in his hotel.

Rau had mixed feelings about the live broadcast of this annual, monarchic appearance of the American President, speaking to the two houses of Congress.

At the same time, however, he realised that the man who had invited him to come along to the White House the next day for a thirty-minute chat had not budged an inch in his basic position on East-West relations.

Next day the Social Democrat Johannes Rau made his position equally clear to the President.

Before doing so, however, Rau tried to [illegible] ing common ground. After the two politicians had sat down in front of the fire in the Oval Office and the photographers had been shown out of the room after exactly 30 seconds Rau tried to draw a comparison between his own and the President's political career. Why shouldn't he have ambitions as Premier of the biggest German *Land*, he asked, of taking over power in Bonn? After all, the Californian governor Ronald Reagan performed a similar feat.

Although the President smiled at the comparison he did not give a straight answer.

After the meeting reporters asked Rau: "Did he wish you luck?".

In his typically sybilline manner, Rau answered: "If I were the President I wouldn't make any remark publicly which could be interpreted back home as taking sides in an election."

The meeting lasted exactly half an hour, and Rau, who made his remarks on political issues in German, didn't have much time to go into details.

SDI, which for many observers is the political issue which will test just how much conflict Rau will risk with the Reagan administration, was only vaguely broached.

According to Rau's closest advisers, Reagan just didn't take up the topic.

Rau himself just referred to "differing opinions" on this issue, without going into details.

Rau told the journalists that the meeting was "on the whole, not just an exchange of courtesies, but a discussion with substance."

Later on, during a speech to 100 guests at the American Enterprise Institute, he once again combined his basic message of friendship with a desire to see Washington step up efforts for substantial progress at disarmament talks.

Rau urged President Reagan to continue the process exemplified by the summit meeting in Geneva.

One of the questions raised related to an aspect of German reality which was not really on the agenda in Washington.

The generally friendly applause had hardly died down when one the guests almost apologised for what he called a *"rather provincial question."*

He said he had heard that the mayor of a town called Korschenbroich in North Rhine-Westphalia had made an alarming statement on the Jews. What was Mr Rau's position on this statement?. Rau knew immediately which statement was meant.

During budgetary consultations the CDU mayor of Korschenbroich, Baron Wilderich von Mirbach Count Spee, stated that "several rich Jews would have to be killed to balance the 1986 budget".

"I don't believe that there is an adequate explanation for such a statement," Rau said, then adding, "I am certain many people back home — in all parties — are shocked by the many inexplicable statements made in recent weeks.

"I don't know what is still unconsciously and subconsciously taking place in many people's minds".

He concluded his reply to this question by emphasising: "I can only apologise on behalf of those who still utter such thoughts today".

Martin E. Süskind

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 7 February 1986)

Reagan and Rau in the Oval Office (Photo: dpa)

Chancellor Kohl confers with Whitehead

In his letter of congratulation to US President Ronald Reagan on his 75th birthday, Chancellor Helmut Kohl stressed the "exceedingly positive development" of German-American relations and the intensive exchange of ideas between Bonn and Washington.

This process of close cooperation in the field of East-West relations and arms control policies was continued during talks in Bonn between US under-secretary of state John Whitehead and Chancellor Kohl and a number of his Ministers.

Talks centred on the Western response to the latest disarmament proposals by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachov.

This topic was the key issue of two-day consultations between disarmament US disarmament negotiator Paul Nitze and German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and other experts in Bonn.

In his letter to President Reagan Chancellor Kohl praised the renewal of American self-confidence during Reagan's period in office.

He described Mr Reagan's summit meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachov in Geneva as a great personal success for the President, the USA and Nato as a whole.

The Geneva meeting laid the foundations for a lasting consolidation of East-West stability.

The hopes of the world were now pinned on the successful continuation and positive conclusion of the dialogue begun in Geneva.

Kohl also praised the current state of relations between the two countries during his meeting with Whitehead, saying roughly 80 per cent of people in the Federal Republic supported close cooperation with the USA.

Despite occasional friction and mutual public criticism the relationship between both countries was remarkably stable.

This was reflected in close collaboration on security and peace policy issues, in the development of economic ties, technology transfer negotiations, cooperation on SDI and the joint fight against international terrorism.

Mr Whitehead's visit to Bonn was described as his maiden visit. He held talks with Chancellor Kohl, Defence Minister Wörner, Finance Minister Stoltenberg, Foreign Office Minister of State Jürgen Möllemann and a group of SPD politicians led by the deputy leader of the SPD parliamentary party, Horst Ehmke.

During all these meetings talks revolved around East-West and bilateral topics and the fight against terrorism.

Under-Secretary Whitehead, who had sounded out the situation in various European capitals two weeks previously, did not try to urge Bonn to join the USA in its trade sanctions policy.

Following a general exchange of views on the state of Soviet-American disarmament talks with Foreign Minister Genscher, Mr Nitze held detailed talks with Bonn disarmament expert Friedrich Ruth.

There already appears to be fundamental agreement between Bonn and Washington that Gorbachov's proposals deserve a constructive response in the near future.

Herr Ruth will be travelling to Washington in February for a further round of consultations.

(General-Anzeiger, Bonn, 6 February 1986)

Continued from page 1

about half of which goes toward Nato — "and farmers whose dirty tricks competition is driving US farmers to rack and ruin."

General Rogers finds it difficult to put up a defence against this argument advanced by American farmers.

In this state of affairs tact is called for, not Common Market diplomacy, which has much in common with the woodman's axe. A general policy review is also advisable. The Western economic summit, to be held in Tokyo in May, could be an opportunity for a clean sweep of this kind — provided it is well prepared.

Hermann Bohle

(Kieler Nachrichten, 29 January 1986)

■ TERRORISM

Security alert in what may be a bumper year for terrorism

Coming after a lengthy and deceptive break, 1986 seems destined, after terrorist raids on airports in Rome and Vienna that cost about 20 lives, to be a bumper year for international terrorism.

The hijacking of the *Achille Lauro* last autumn and planes hijacked to Beirut and Malta formed part of a wave of terrorism from which Germany was not spared:

- A bomb blast shook Rhine-Main international airport, Frankfurt, in mid-June.
- At the end of November a bomb exploded outside the PX, or US forces store, in Frankfurt.

Police feel both raids were probably the handiwork of Palestinian terrorists operating internationally.

Over Christmas even worse incidents were nipped in the bud in neighbouring Belgium and France:

- Two Arabs landed in Brussels and were caught with forged passports, eight kilograms of explosive, hand grenades and ammunition.
- The very next day the French authorities arrested three Egyptians and two Portuguese who had clearly been planning a raid on a Paris synagogue.

Politicians and security authorities have since been on maximum alert, and the Americans are by no means on their own in their grim struggle against international terrorism.

European Community Foreign Ministers conferred in Brussels at the end of January on how best to step up efforts to contain the threat.

So stemming the tide of terrorism has been a European priority since the New Year. There have been warnings that Abu Nidal's killer commandos, said to have been to blame for the Rome and Vienna airport raids, are planning further raids in Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and the Federal Republic.

Yet the Foreign Ministers meeting in Brussels were bound to realise that there are strict limits to preventive action no matter how vigilant the authorities are and that overstepping the mark imposes serious burdens on civilian and public life.

European democracies can't maintain a permanent state of emergency. Even stricter surveillance of civil aviation weighs heavily on flight timetables. Further measures could easily create chaos.

Strict enforcement of existing security arrangements might arguably be enough to spike terrorists' guns. Since the late-1970s no-one has succeeded in smuggling arms or explosives on board an airliner in the Federal Republic, for instance.

Preventive measures must aim first and foremost at the strictest conceivable checks of air travellers and at precautions to prevent suspicious individuals, arms and ammunition from being smuggled into the country.

In international collaboration there must be the closest possible observation and surveillance of travel by potential terrorists.

Checks have definitely been intensified at German airports since the New Year. All departing passengers and their hand luggage are checked.

As often as possible suitcases are also identified by their owners to make sure that unaccompanied luggage does not find its way on board.

Luggage for flights to countries that are considered a special security risk, such as Israel, has been given particularly careful attention, especially since the end of December.

More police than usual are around at check-in, partly as a deterrent. A closer



general watch is kept, including an eye on air mail and cargo.

Checks of arrivals are another major aspect of measures to prevent terrorism. *Arrivals from all countries from which terrorists might well come are discreetly but specially checked.*

At the least indication or if the slightest warning is raised, suspects' particulars are relayed to all border crossing points.

If they try to enter the country they are strictly checked and, if need be, refused entry or, if their names are on the wanted list, taken into custody.

All visitors from countries associated with terrorism, including the Arab world, have long been required to hold visas.

There are no gaps whatever in the system inasmuch as it is a matter of visas being issued by German embassies.

Visas aren't issued if there is the slightest suspicion that the applicant's credentials are less than irreproachable.

Special attention is paid to misused Middle Eastern passports such as the Tunisian passports reportedly used by the terrorists in Rome and Vienna.

The real holders of their passports are said to have been expelled from Libya. Similarly, Moroccan passports have been presented at the German border by travellers who were not Moroccans.

Whenever an arrival presents a passport from a country whose passports are known to "float" in this way, his identity is automatically checked with the greatest care.

European countries are collaborating in attempts to plug another gap through which possible terrorists may slip, such as when a Libyan suspect deported from Britain was soon afterwards allowed into Belgium without difficulty.

The particulars of all aliens from countries outside the European Community who are felt to be potentially dangerous by the authorities of one member-country are now relayed to police and border authorities in other Common Market countries.

These moves may step up security but they clearly cannot provide copper-bottomed protection from terrorist raids.

Raids are planned and carried out with all the imagination, energy and international contacts leading terrorists often have.

But the threat to the Federal Republic is not felt to have been heightened substantially in the wake of recent raids.

Yasser Arafat's "ordinary" PLO is not felt to be responsible for current terrorism in the Middle East, so the roughly 10,000 Palestinians who live in the Federal Republic are not rated a threat.

German security authorities are convinced the PLO's Bonn bureau has nothing to do with the raids.

They are also convinced they have the Libyan People's Bureau, Colonel Gaddafi's embassy in Bonn, firmly under control in respect of arms, equipment and manpower it might seek to smuggle into the Federal Republic.

In any case, there is still no proof that the Libyan authorities were behind the Rome and Vienna raids. The Bonn Foreign Office says anti-terrorist cooperation with the Libyan authorities is far from unsatisfactory.

An improvement in international precautions at government level seems the most urgent present requirement. Cooperation within the European Community is to be further intensified, the Council of Ministers decided in Brussels.

Interior Ministers and senior civil servants collaborate closely on the basis of binding agreement in the Trevi (short for Terrorism, Radicalism, Extremism and International Violence) *Group*.

There is also the Vienna Club, consisting of Austrian, Swiss, French, Italian and German security authorities and a working party set up by the seven-member group of Western economic summit countries to pay special atten-

Continued on page 6

Uwe Dee, the man who heads GSG 9

Uwe Dee's cigarette lighter is French (and a very distinguished brand too). *So are his cigarettes (arguably less* distinguished but with a he-man image).

The lighter was a present from his wife. His cigarettes and lighter are the only French attributes of the commanding officer of GSG 9, Bonn's crack anti-terrorist unit.

Dee, 45, is every inch a North German, the fair-haired son of a Bremerhaven master-mariner.

During the recent spate of terrorist raids in Europe and the Middle East he was repeatedly pressed by the media for an opinion on the latest developments.

Dee stonewalled, saying nothing. He was either unwilling or unable to comment.

GSG 9 has been held in international repute since October 1977 when the squad, led by its founder and first commanding officer, Ulrich K. Wegener, freed a Lufthansa airliner, passengers and crew hijacked to Mogadishu.

That one night in Somalia is past history. The Federal Border Patrol's crack squad is on constant standby to fight terrorism in present and future.

There may be no immediate problem but, as Dee says, that could change overnight. His present problem is to keep the media at bay.

When the Egyptian bid to rush a hijacked airline on Malta last November backfired, costing 60 lives, Ulrich Wegener, now head of GSG West and Dee's superior, was besieged by telephone callers.

National and international media were keen to know how he as a highly regarded anti-terrorist expert rated the situation.

He too said nothing — a gesture of fairness toward his Egyptian colleagues. The experts prefer to keep their own counsels, discussing shortcomings amongst themselves. The media bombardment failed.

While Wegener lay low, Dee flew un-





Uwe Dee (Photo: AP)

noticed to Malta and saw for himself at Luqa airport how the Egyptians had failed.

He did so in keeping with the old GSG 9 principle of gathering experience, forging international links and evaluating and learning from others' mistakes.

That was how the unit operated under Ulrich Wegener, and Uwe Dee has kept up the tradition.

He knows all about the Malta operation but is guarding the conclusions he has reached like the Americans guard Fort Knox. He is a career officer and isn't going to divulge details to the Press.

He is also a professional when it comes to analysing terrorist violence and assessing the part his unit might play in fighting it.

This is a topic on which he is prepared to voice an opinion. "International terrorism," he says, "is on the increase; and all countries are called on to fight it."

Yet, as the man who has headed GSG 9 for the past four years readily admits: "Even one of the best special units is powerless against killers, suicides and bombs."

So his unit's aim is to eliminate terrorists in direct combat. That is what the unit is trained to do; that and its legendary reputation enhance its deterrent potential.

"Since Mogadishu," he says, "there has not been a single instance in the Federal Republic of German or foreign terrorists taking hostages, for instance, and laying themselves open to direct attack."

"Terrorists are afraid of GSG 9," he says, his expensive cigarette lighter flashing, "they know we will get them sooner or later."

His unit has been in great demand since the hijacking of the *Achille Lauro* and the Rome and Vienna airport raids.

"Third World countries in particular, lacking special units of their own, have called on us for training facilities and know-how."

Countries that make enquiries are particularly interested in the sophisticated equipment and technical facilities his men use. "Some bring their buyers with them," he says with a grin. "They are keen to snap up everything we have."

He ends with a few remarks on the much-vaunted topic of international cooperation in combating terrorism.

"At the practical level it works; on that score I have no misgivings. But the political level is a different matter altogether."

Dee sounds a sceptical note. Like his

Continued on page 5

■ PROFILE

Liv Ullmann's new role as Unicef special envoy

Norwegian actress Liv Ullmann was awarded the German United Nations Association's Dag Hammarskjöld Medal in Berlin for her work on behalf of Unicef. Former German Chancellor Willy Brandt made the speech in her honour.

At some stage of their life everyone feels that the time has come to stop doing whatever it is they have been doing so far and start doing something which is more meaningful.

Not many people, however, are able to change their lives so radically, and very rarely is a person able to achieve a smooth transition from one great career to another.

The Norwegian actress and ambassador extraordinary of the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef), Liv Ullmann, is an exception.

Liv Ullmann's autobiograhical book *Wandlungen* (Changes), published in 1978, contains a quote from the Danish philosopher, Soren Kierkegaard, which gives the reader an idea of what made her completely change her life-style.

"Soeren Kierkegaard said that we are born into this world with a sealed mission. I have tried to discover what my mission is."

Two years later Liv Ullmann knew that her mission was not acting.

"I don't want to have to ask myself later on what I have done with my life", Liv Ullmann explains, "and have to answer: you've played a part".

Part of the fulfilment of her mission was her trip to South-East Asia in 1980.

She set out with a convoy of prominent personalities, among them folk songstress, Joan Baez, pioneer civil rights campaigner, Alexander Ginsburg, and Jewish writer, Elie Wiesel, to bring 20 truck-loads of food and medicine, 50 doctors and nurses, to the refugee camps on the Kampuchean border.

The members of the project, however, were naive enough to believe that Kampuchea would open up its borders to the stars of the western media.

The convoy was forced to turn back and distribute its relief supplies in camps in Thailand.

On her return flight to New York, however, Liv Ullmann jotted down the following sentence in the notes which later formed the basis for her books: "I thank you, God, for this trip".

Since then Liv Ullmann has worked (without remuneration) as an ambassador extraordinary for the Unicef and also done all she can for the plight of refugees throughout the world.

In a sense, this has been a logical development.

"No child in the world", says Liv Ullmann, "should have to say what one child once whispered to me: 'Sometimes I cry. But only if it rains. Then the other children don't notice.'

"I still feel the warm and tiny hand of a small boy", she adds, "I still see his small back and his bottom, wrinkled like an old man, and I ask myself what he is doing today. Whether he is still alive."

"Maybe he's dead. 40,000 children under 4 years of age die every day", says Liv Ullmann, "one every two seconds".

However, death has not been Liv Ullmann's sole companion during her visits to the refugee camps and Unicef projects.

When she goes fund-raising in the rich countries of this world she rarely just refers to the horrendous facts and figures of death and starvation.

She prefers to talk of the life she has found in the Third World.

Unfortunately, the Unicef is still dependent on "begging" for private donations or government relief funds.

Liv Ullmann describes a typical experience during her visit to a developing country: "I met one woman in a village. I couldn't talk to her, but suddenly I was sat in her hut. She didn't even have a glass of water to offer her guest, but she ran her hands over the fabric of my dress, and I touched her necklace, and when I left the hut she held my hand and didn't want to let go.

"We looked at each other and smiled. In western countries we get nervous if we're left on our own with someone, since there's a risk of running out of things to talk about, and we would never dare touch one another."

Nevertheless, the 48 year-old actress, who recently married for the second time, knows that she has to talk about the dire need of the starving to raise the money needed for relief projects.

Liv Ullmann, who has a 19 year-old duaghter (father: Ingrid Bergman), also likes talking about the laughing children she has met.

Her eyes light up when she describes how children in an African camp took her by the hand and how they rollicked about until they were out of breath.

Or the little shoe-shine boys in Bogota, who took her along to the sacks on which sleep so that she could kiss them goodnight.

She recalls how a doctor in Colombia told the women who had prematurely given birth to their children to hold their tiny babies close to their breasts and caress them because the medical station had no incubators.

The warmth of the mother kept the babies alive.

Liv Ullmann has seen the extreme sides of life and is grateful for this.

"In a village in Bangla Desh", she says, "we were supposed to inspect new toilets. They were just three holes in the ground, but were hygienic and far away from the well.

"Everyone was happy and I praised the holes — and I suddenly had to think of the toilets in Hollywood, which look like thrones, and our way of life seemed so far away."

Of course, it's easy for Liv Ullmann to praise the holes in Bangla Desh and then go to sleep in western luxury the next day in her hotel.

Many people are bound to turn their noses up at a star doing this kind of work and at the fact that stars are always in the limelight.

However, even if Liv Ullmann had given all her (substantial) worldly goods to the Unicef this would not have helped the underprivileged children as much as using her popularity to raise funds for a good cause.

No-one who has ever talked to Liv Ullmann or listened to what she has to say can doubt the sincerity of her work.

Not even such a good actress as Liv Ullmann can pretend to feel the feelings she shows in her eyes.

Although she is the third in a series of *ambassadors extraordinary to the Unicef,* succeeding Danny Kaye and Peter Ustinov, she was the first one to be criticised for her work by colleagues and the public.

Perhaps because she talks about her experiences instead of organising charity concerts.

Perhaps, however, because her new "role" doesn't fit in with the image she had previously created, as a great actress who allowed herself to be moulded into a role by her male directors, in particular, her former companion, Ingmar Bergman.

It was under his directorship that she performed star roles in films such as *Face to Face, Schreie und Flüstern* and *Szenen einer Ehe.*

Today, Bergman feels that Liv Ullmann is wasting her talent as an actress.

Liv Ullmann herself, however, is going her own way, and is convinced that she has discovered the mission of her life in the countries of the Third World.

Hannes Gamillscheg

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 1 February 1986)

Liv Ullmann kissing Willy Brandt in Berlin. (Photo: AP)



Continued from page 4

predecessor Ulrich Wegener he is strongly in favour of an international anti-terrorist force comparable with Nato's Ace Mobile Forces.

Wegener once envisaged such a flying squad as being "international, but with a strong national component, drilled in joint manoeuvres held several times a year and under uniform command."

Uwe Dee has this to add: "A force of this kind must be able to act fast, without a great political debate, when hostages are taken.

"It has to be deployable everywhere: Germans in Italy, Ameridans in Germany, for instance.

"Each member-unit must be a specialist in its sector, such as taking an aircraft by storm. In an emergency everyone must be entitled to do what he can do best. "I must warn against combined operations involving several international units of this kind."

Dee, whose wife works in management consultancy, has the nonchalance of a commanding officer who knows what high-grade manpower and equipment he has at his disposal.

Lighting yet another "he-man" cigarette with his expensive French lighter, the man who commands one of the world's best special operations units, stationed in St Augustin, near Bonn, makes a most interesting throw-away parting remark. "GSG 9," he says, "is prepared for everything, including terrorism at sea."

Rolf Tophoven

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, Bonn, 1 February 1986)

Although some people visit the annual Green Week agricultural and food industry exhibition in Berlin just to see the flower displays and enjoy the spring-time atmosphere many people head straight for the the stalls with the more exotic delicacies such as French oysters.

Both categories of exhibition visitor, however, were not really representative of the general character of this year's 51st International Green Week.

"For many years", the manager of the Berlin trade fair organisation, Manfred Busche, admits, "this was not an exhibition at all, but just a showcase for Eastern products".

Today, on the other hand, the exhibition is both a business forum and a venue for discussion on agricultural and food problems.

Nevertheless, the exhibition site is still not big enough to cope with this new dimension, and there are days when visitors can count themselves lucky if they get home without being bruised.

Exhibitor countries such as the United States, Turkey and Spain have been calling for more exhibition space for some time now, and another new hall will be ready in 1987.

This year's agricultural policy discussion did not resemble that of previous exhibition years.

In 1985, for example, the farming community was still complaining about the policy of fixing dairy farming quotas and tried to defuse the explosive discussion about agricultural surpluses by pointing towards the hunger in the world.

The mood of the discussion was different this year, however, most farmers realising that surpluses do not really benefit their producers at all.

■ AGRICULTURE

Green Week emphasises structural change



Only 20 % of the cost of the European Community actually ends up in the farmers' pockets, the rest being soaked up by bureaucracies, the down-subsidisation of exports or storage costs.

There has been a drop in farmers' incomes in spite of the fact that the Federal Republic of Germany pays DM30bn for its agricultural system.

The income gap between rural and urban areas is wider than ever before — to the detriment of the farmers.

Even the German Farmers' Association, and its president, Baron Constantin Heereman von Zuydtwyck, also held back with their criticism this year.

Although the farmers agree with Bonn's Food, Agriculture and Forestry Minister, Ignaz Kiechle, that farm prices should not be lowered, they showed themselves to be open to discussion.

Heereman knows that there is no way of getting any more public money for the farmers.

This was the first time ever that the farmers' representatives and the minister responsible for farming agreed to start a discussion on new agricultural structures.

This discussion will focus on both the environmental aspects of farming and its social components.

The idea is to foster the image of the farmer as a protector of the environment and lover of nature as well as reward farmers for this stance.

If the farmers are unable to find a new concept in this field the Finance Ministers will start assuming more and more responsibility for agricultural policy issues.

This would be a catastrophe for the otherwise self-confident farming community.

The eleven developing countries exhibiting their products at the Green Week have to face up to entirely different problems.

They would like to export more of their products but find themselves confronted by the overwhelming competition of suppliers from other countries.

Nevertheless, a growing awareness for fresh goods and a willingness to pay more for otherwise off-season products, especially in the Federal Republic of Germany, mean that various varieties of fruit and vegetables from developing countries are able to find a market in the European Community.

Consumers, for example, seem willing to accept a high price for plums in January.

The same applies to flowers at this time of year, and countries such as Tunisia and Morocco have reoriented their export policies over the years to cater for the demand.

Apart from the Mediterranean countries new overseas suppliers are gradually moving into the Community market.

Uruguay, for example, is hoping to supply flowers, Ecuador has high hopes for its strawberries, Chile for its natural bioproducts, and Peru intends exporting its asparagus to Germany.

On the one hand, new producers are trying to sell traditional products and, on the other hand, traditional producer countries are hoping to introduce new products to the market.

Finnish potatoes from Lapland, for example, which only ripen under the midnight sun, are a product which has yet to find its market.

During this year's food fair in Berlin there was some sharp criticism of the large-scale food chains, which often limit their fruit and vegetable product range.

Apart from the often limited types of fruit and vegetable on offer in supermarkets experts criticised the fact that sales personnel often lacked proper information about the variety of products on the market.

The exhibition in Berlin yet again showed that the agricultural market is undergoing structural change.

The awareness of this fact and the willingness to act accordingly is spreading.

All the farming experts in Berlin agreed that something has got to change.

This view is shared by ecologists, who feel that farmers should also play their part in protecting the environment.

Friedrich Schneider

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 1 February 1986)

Foremost food importer

Last year the Federal Republic of Germany imported farm produce worth roughly DM58bn, as against DM54.6bn in 1984, says Bonn Agriculture Minister Ignaz Kiechle, CSU.

Farm exports totalled DM28bn, as against DM26.7bn the year before.

In terms of population the Federal Republic is the world's largest agricultural importer by far, while in exports it was only outperformed by the United States, France and the Netherlands.

Herr Kiechle said in Bonn that a half-mark of German agricultural imports was the amount imported from developing countries and from industrialised countries that were not members of the European Community.

In 1985 imports from non-Community countries increased by over DM1bn to DM26bn, while imports from within the Ten increased from DM28.9bn to an estimated DM32bn.

The mainstay of German agricultural exports, the Minister says, are meat products, wine and beer, exports of which have more than doubled in the past seven years.

The 10 leading export markets are Italy, Holland, France, Britain, Belgium and Luxembourg, the United States, Denmark, Austria, Greece and Switzerland.

Two thirds of German farm exports goes to European Community countries; they and exports to other Western European countries make up roughly three quarters of the total.

In the past seven years the value of exports has increased fourfold in relation to the quantity exported.

dpa/vwd

(General-Anzeiger, Bonn, 8 January 1986)

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tion to security in international civil aviation.

Collaboration between security authorities is particularly intensive between France, Belgium and the Federal Republic — and has been since the RAF assassination of a German industrialist near Munich and the Action Directe assassination of a French general in Paris last year.

But cooperation between the German RAF and its ideological counterparts in France and Belgium is currently limited to ideological and organisational matters, and there are no signs of cooperation between the RAF and currently active Palestinian terrorists.

German security authorities also cooperate closely with the United States, partly of course on account of the threat to US forces and their dependents in Germany.

German authorities have frequently voiced alarm at the "open" way of life of Americans who don't lock their cars, don't secure fences and don't take guard duty too seriously. Precautions on these counts have now been stepped up.

Collaboration between intelligence services is one of the weak spots in international efforts to combat terrorism.

Despite goodwill and plans to exchange as much information and analysis as possible, Bonn government officials note resignedly that secrecy is inherent in intelligence work.

That means practical measures must be mainly relied on to tighten up security.

When the Foreign Office received bomb threats in the New Year, strict checks were introduced, visitors' car underbodies being checked by mirrors.

Guard dog patrols have been doubled. Two dogs now patrol the grounds of Hans-Dietrich Genscher's Bonn Ministry.

Thomas Meyer

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 28 January 1986)

■ OIL

Saudis pull the plug, but is it a winning strategy?



Saudi Arabia has taken on all the other oil-producing countries. The kingdom has translated into action the threats made so frequently in the past, no one believed them.

For the past two months Saudi crude has flooded world markets and undermined prices.

Brent crude, the variety produced from the British North Sea oilfields was quoted last week at just slightly more than $17 per barrel (a barrel equals 159 litres). Last November the price per barrel was $30.

The price for Texan crude fell on the New York commodities market to below $20. Crude has not been so cheap since the Iranian revolution in 1979.

Consumers worldwide are profiting from the oil glut. The filling station at the Interkauf supermarket at Hude, near Bremen, was offering recently normal petrol at 99.9 pfennings a litre. Heating oil can now be had for 55 pfennings per litre (including value added tax). As yet there is no sign that the fall in oil prices is levelling off.

Saudi Oil Minister Sheikh Yamani recently said the the price could fall to $15 per barrel.

The Kuwaiti newsagency Kuna reported that the OPEC countries were prepared to let the price fall to $13 per barrel, and the head of Deutsch Shell, Cornelius Herkstöter, who certainly cannot be counted among the prophets of doom, believes it possible that the price could drop to close to the $10 per barrel level.

Last summer King Faud hinted the way things would go, a direction described by the Kuwaiti Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Kalifa el-Sabah as "chaos on international markets".

The King was not prepared to hold Saudi production to around two million barrels a day any longer, although Saudi Arabia's OPEC quota was 4.3 million barrels a day.

The Saudi's voluntary reduction in production allowed other Opec countries to over-produce.

Furthermore non-Opec members Britian and Norway produced their North Sea oil to the maximum and sold it in traditional Opec markets.

Over the past few years Britain and Norway have [illegible] West Germany's oil requirements. Saudi Arabia only supplied about 4.5 per cent of demand, because for some time Saudi Arabia held firmly to Opec prices.

The King has now told his Oil Minister that there is to be an end to all that. Within a few weeks Saudi Arabia doubled its oil production to four million barrels daily, and cut out the risk element for its customers. The Saudis only asked the refining cost for their oil, deducting from this what they got for the sale of residual products.

In a very short time the selling method pushed export sales up to five million barrels daily.

Because other Opec countries resorted to similar tricks, Opec production shot up to the current 18.4 million barrels a day, according to the *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly*, 2.4 million barrels more than Opec countries had agreed among themselves.

There is no demand for so much oil, because the winter weather in Europe and the United States has been relatively mild.

According to the International Energy Agency in Paris Opec supplies exceed demand by three million barrels per day.

The glut of oil that the Saudis have purposely released to the market is directed in the main against Britain and Norway, but also against fellow Opec states. The British are the main fly in the ointment for the Saudis, however.

Since 1981 the British have increased their production from 1.8 million barrels per day to 2.5 million barrels per day last year. Customers turned their backs on the Opec countries, particularly Saudi Arabia.

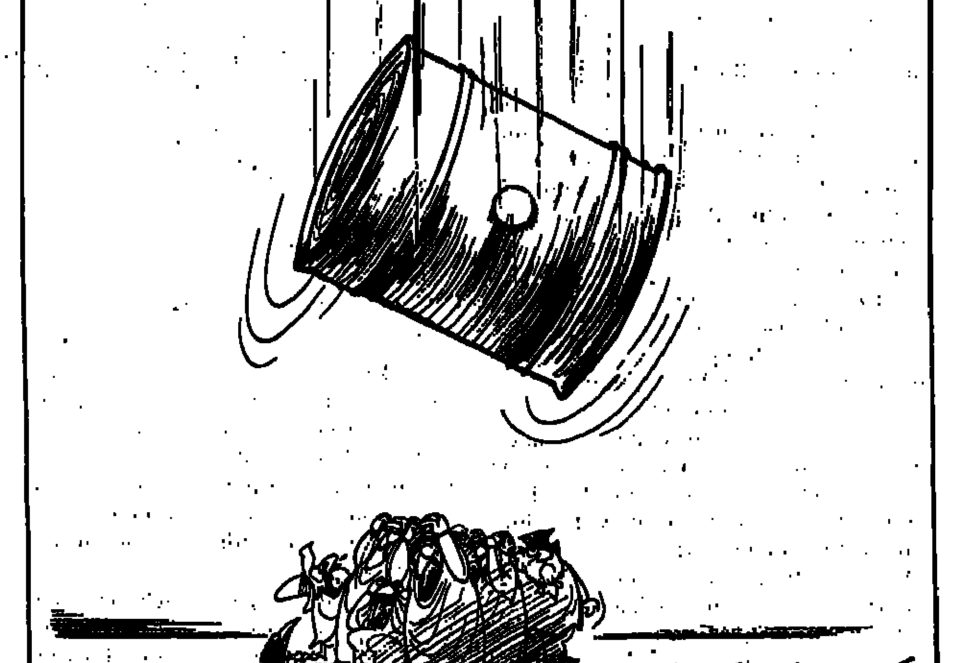
Only the two superpowers, the US and Soviet Russia, and now Saudi Arabia extract more oil than do the British. Whilst Saudi Arabia, battling for oil price stability, has throttled back oil production from ten million barrels a day to two million, so losing three-quarters of their income compared with 1981, the British government has been creaming off the oil market.

London has not bothered a fig for what the Opec countries did, but has allowed North Sea oil production to go ahead at full capacity, leaving the price to the market forces of supply and demand.

The British government cannot stipulate to the oil companies operating in the North Sea how much oil they should extract from day to day. In the most recently developed fields licences permit oil companies to pump oil at the maximum rate possible for periods of around five years, so that they can amortise their considerable capital investment.

In other fields, cuts of up to 20 per cent can be ordered, and then only after six months' notice.

Reducing British production by 200,000 barrels a day, and even then only after six months, will not have much effect. If Norway, currently producing one million barrels a day, were to follow the British and cut back on production the Opec countries would not be helped very much.



(Cartoon: Hanel/Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger)

The cartel, that has no bite, has not been able to maintain production at only 18 million barrels a day that it considers to be fair.

Is there no option then but to continue the price war so as to force the competition from the market, as Sheikh Yamani has in mind?

Prices would have to drop dramatically if the Saudi Oil Minister's strategy is to have the effect he hopes for swiftly. For 95 per cent of the oil platforms in the North Sea can continue to function even if the oil price were to fall to around the $5 a barrel mark.

The chances of Opec winning a price war against Britain and Norway would seem to be remote.

Moreover oil is not as important an economic factor in these two countries as with the Opec states. Oil production only accounts for about five per cent of the British Gross National Product, and oil makes up only seven per cent of British exports and ten per cent of the state's income.

On the other hand most of the Opec countries are almost totally dependent for income on their oil. Every price drop hits them harder than the European competition. Every dollar fall in the oil price costs the Opec states together more than $6 billion per year.

Mexico would also be badly harmed, and Mexico does not belong to Opec but is the world's fourth largest oil exporter. Every dollar fall in the oil price costs Mexico close to $550 million annually.

Mexico's Finance Minister recently postponed a meeting with Mexico's major creditors, because he wanted to see the effects of developments in the oil market.

The Mexicans, who since 1982 have held up interest and capital repayments on the country's foreign debt, would be even worse hit by further declines in oil quotations, when it comes to serving their foreign debt of $96 billion.

But the Central American countries can also gain from cheap oil. It is a rule of thumb that a ten per cent price reduction in oil increases economic growth worldwide by half a percentage point and reduces inflation to the same extent.

Modest price increases would reduce interest rates, and with every percentage point drop in interest rates Mexico gains $700 million a year.

The American investment bank Manufacturers Hannover reckons that a percentage point increase in the growth rate among the industrialised countries increases the value of Mexico's exports by $260 million to $525 million. The absolute winners in a price war among the oil-producing countries would benefit all countries that are dependent on imported oil. West Germany would benefit the most because most of its oil requirements are covered by oil imports.

West Germany's oil costs in 1986, compared to the year before, would drop at least DM15 billion if the oil price average throughout the year was about $20 per barrel and the exchange rate stayed at $2.50, according to Heinz Jürgen Schürmann of the Energy Institute of Cologne University.

This would give the West German *economy* a powerful nudge forward, and coupled to tax cuts at the beginning of next year would have twice its effect.

But this purchase gain of DM15 billion would not stop there. The price for gas, coal, heating and perhaps also for electricity would have to drop along with the oil price.

Thanks to a divided Opec and the aggressive Saudis West Germans are enjoying an economic situation that they have never had before of this magnitude and that, moreover, has the inestimable advantage of being achieved neither through taxes or credits.

The oil states will pay for this happy situation, mainly the Saudis as the largest exporters. It is likely the Saudis will so glut the market that the price will go through the floor. In 1970 and 1980

Continued on page 9

The big oil producers in 1985

Crude output in *millions of tons*

Country	Output
India	31
Egypt	44
Kuwait	50
United Arab Emir.	60
Nigeria	73
Venezuela	89
China	125
Mexico	151
USA	492
USSR	596
Saudi Arabia	165
Britain	129
Iran	110
Canada	85
Iraq	70
Indonesia	60
Libya	50
Norway	38

(Globus) 5923

■ MOTORING

Blue light next to red light might get the green light

DIE WELT

Red, amber and green are colours most road-users would instantly recognise as the traffic light sequence. They may soon be joined by a fourth traffic light, possibly blue.

Experiments with the blue light began in the city centre of Berne, Switzerland, where it flashes alongside the red one.

Blue is the colour of the environmental seal of quality. As a traffic light it is intended as a reminder to motorists to switch their ignition off.

During the rush hour motorists in Berne and most other cities spend much of their time waiting at lights. An idling engine wastes valuable fuel and causes unnecessary environmental pollution.

The municipal authorities installed an extra blue light that flashes for as long as the red phase still has long enough to go to make it worthwhile switching the engine off.

When the blue light goes out, motorists have three seconds in which to switch the ignition back on, put the engine into gear and step on the accelerator.

The canny Swiss have worked out for the entire city how much fuel and money motorists should save and what benefit the environment is likely to derive.

Blue lights at 110 traffic lights could save at least two million litres of motor fuel and reduce vehicle emission by 600 tonnes if everyone was to switch the ignition off as indicated.

But the experiment is still in its early days. Berne still has only a single set of traffic lights with a blue lamp, and the law would have to be changed if more were to be introduced.

Neighbouring Baden-Württemberg, home of the pollution-hit Black Forest, is impressed by the Berne idea.

A number of local politicians have emerged as traffic light experts.

Backed by the Stuttgart Interior Ministry, three different systems of environmental traffic lights are undergoing trials.

A blue light signals "switch off the ignition" to motorists in Göppingen, Esslingen and Ostfildern. In Böblingen an extra light flashes either "engine on" or "engine off."

The Böblingen system is felt to be one most likely to succeed inasmuch as it gives clear instructions. But each extra light costs at least DM5,000.

The Tübingen system is less expensive. It consists of an extra clockface and hour hand costing a mere DM300 or so.

Motorists are told that the lights switch to green "on the hour," as it were. So they have ample time in which to switch their engines back on between the 9 and 12 positions.

The clockface is both inexpensive and easy to install, but other alternatives are also under consideration.

For years there have been signs at railway level crossings requesting motorists to switch their engines off while waiting. They could just as well do so at traffic lights too.

Findings of a survey carried out by Biel engineering college, Switzerland, make it more than clear why switching off makes sense.

An idling engine was found to use as much oxygen in a second as a baby breathes in two and a half hours.

So Darmstadt in Hesse has decided to experiment with signs at traffic lights instructing motorists to switch their engines off *while the red light is on*.

A second sign indicates how long the red phase is: 99 seconds, for instance.

This combination is unquestionably the least expensive arrangement of all. But lights don't always run at the same rate all day long and switching engines off for short periods isn't always advisable on either economic or ecological grounds.

Switching off only makes sense if the engine won't have to be switched on again for at least 10 seconds. Anything less is likely to result in higher fuel consumption and emission, especially when the accelerator is given a good kick.

Enamel signs are no indication whether switching off is going to be worthwhile or not.

Yet after five months of trials the Darmstadt authorities say a majority of motorists do as they're told. Initially noone bothered, but now about 60 per cent of motorists switch off their ignition at traffic lights with a sign advising them to do so.

Figures from Berne and Baden-Württemberg are similar — and even higher, about 80 per cent, among people who drive for a living, such as taxi and bus drivers.

Figures take a turn for the worse in winter when the weather is too cold to switch the engine off for any length of time.

The further back in the line motorists are, the fewer will switch their engines off. From about the 10th in line instructions go unheeded, Darmstadt says.

So critics feel these experiments are just expensive games, whereas supporters say that 100-per-cent observance, although preferable, is not indispensable.

Litter louts don't bother using waste paper baskets, yet no-one would infer from this undeniable fact that litter baskets were a waste of time and should be scrapped.

Besides, supporters of "switching off" schemes feel sure more people will do so once people are conversant with the system.

If you would like to do the environment a good turn here and now, all you need to do is keep an eye on the pedestrian lights.

When they switch from green *to red* you can switch the engine back on — and will have ample time in which to do so.

Michael Mosch

(Die Welt, Bonn, 30 January 1986)

Call for road safety to be made a Europe-wide issue

Road safety campaigns cannot hope to succeed if they stop short at frontiers, says Gerhard Schork, president of the German Road Safety Council (DVR).

The closest possible international cooperation is essential if road safety is to work within the European Community, he said in Bonn, inaugurating European Road Safety Year.

Cooperation is not always plain sailing, as differences between Bonn and the European Commission in Brussels on speed limits show.

There was no mistaking these disagreements as European Road Safety Year began.

The DVR's latest campaign against drinking and driving leads with the slogan "Drive Sober, Get Home Safe." It is the keynote of this year's bid to reduce accident figures.

Bonn Transport Minister Werner Dollinger was able to point out that last year's accident figures were a definite improvement in the Federal Republic of Germany.

There were about 8,400 road deaths in 1985, or the same number as in the entire German Reich in 1936 when there were far fewer motor vehicles.

Yet Stanley Clinton Davis, European commissioner for transport, called on the Community to do more to reduce the overall figure of 50,000 road deaths a year.

Fifty thousand is the population of a town such as Hamelin, home of the Pied Piper, while the over 1.5m accident victims injured correspond to the combined population of Cologne and Frankfurt.

Commissioner Clinton Davis said the Commission planned to advocate speed limits on all roads in the 12 member-countries.

European Road Safety Year, he said, presented a welcome opportunity of holding a genuinely political debate on the harmful consequences of speeding.

The Commission would make sure the debate took place, he said. Herr Dollinger said it had already been held in the Federal Republic, and no matter how willing he might be to cooperate, he made it clear there would be no general autobahn speed limit in Germany.

A mere 1.5 per cent of roads in the Federal Republic, the 8,400 kilometres of autobahn, had no speed limit, he said. They accounted for a quarter of road traffic and 650 road deaths, so he saw no need to consider a general speed limit.

Bonn government contributions toward road safety, he said, included the forthcoming introduction of limited driving licences for beginners and a graduated licence for motorcyclists.

Back-seat passengers who failed to "belt up" in cars would also be liable to fines from later this year.

Dr Schork said that despite differences on details the aims of the European Community's road safety programme — to reduce the number of traffic accidents and tell everyone that road safety matters for all — fully tallied with his organisation's work.

Drinking and driving was not chosen at random as the year's leading topic. In 1984 there were 40,332 traffic accidents in which people were killed or maimed and 20,000 involving serious damage to property — all involving drunken drivers.

They totalled 57,000 people injured and 2,173 killed.

To achieve better results the campaign would be accompanied by agreement with the *Länder* on more police alcohol checks.

(Allgemeine Zeitung, Mainz, 1 February 1986)

■ AVIATION

Two new Airbuses planned to widen the range



Two and a half billion dollars will soon be needed for two new Airbus versions planned for the early 1990s.

The Airbus consortium, consisting of leading British, French, German and Spanish aerospace firms, was given the go-ahead at the end of January.

The aim of the new Airbuses is to increase the range of aircraft available. Airlines like having a variety of aircraft from the same maker because it keeps staff and maintenance costs low and makes stocking of parts easier.

At the moment, Boeing has a much greater range than Airbus.

Firms associated with Airbus programme want funds remitted as repayable subsidies by the British, French, German and Spanish governments.

The two new models are the A 330 and the A 340. The A 330 is a twin-jet medium- to long-range 310-seater, the A 340 a four-jet long-range 260-seater.

The R & D bill will be met in accordance with shares in Airbus Industrie, the European company that assembles the Airbus in Toulouse from parts manufactured in and supplied by the countries concerned.

France and Germany are each to contribute roughly 40 per cent, or $1bn each, Britain 20 per cent and Spain four per cent.

Developing a new aircraft nowadays can easily cost $1.5bn-$2bn, or up to DM5bn, and the Airbus consortium plans to launch two new models in the early 1990s.

European — certainly German — opinion has grown more or less used to the idea of government subsidies for new Airbus projects, although that alone by no means justifies repeating the procedure.

Subsidies may be repayable (once the project breaks even), but that makes consideration whether they are warranted none the less pertinent.

Airbus Industrie make good aircraft, but that doesn't answer the question of how long taxpayers can be expected to shell out vast amounts of money.

The Airbus is outstanding. It is reliable, comfortable and low in both noise and fuel consumption. It is a model of technological progress.

But even miracles must make a profit if they are expected to hold their own in the market. Concorde is an example of a project that has failed to do just that.

Airbus executives argue that new models must be developed now. An Airbus family is needed.

There have been recent instances where airlines have changed to Boeing although they have been happy with their Airbuses: the reason is that Airbus could not fill the gaps in the desired range of aircraft.



The 207-seater A 310 version of the European Airbus has been a great success. (Photo: Lufthansa)

British Caledonian, which concentrates on long runs, has sold two A 310 Airbuses and bought Boeing 747s and McDonnell Douglas DC 10-30s instead.

The Airbus consortium has yet to manufacture a really purpose-built long-range model, and that is the reason for plans to build the A 340.

Once the two new models are available, Airbus will have on offer an entire family of aircraft seating 150-400 passengers and designed for ranges of between 550 and 13,000 kilometres.

Yet in comparison the Boeing range still sounds more like an extended Mediterranean family and the Airbus range like the average German family with its 1.8 children.

Boeing boasts a product range extending from the 110-seater, twin-jet 737 to the four-jet, 500-seater 747 Jumbo. Boeings are also available for short-, medium- and long-range services.

Above all, there is a wide choice of adapted models either stretched or designed for long runs.

Not even McDonnell Douglas can compete with Boeing in this respect — even though it has built up a family based on the DC-9 and now named MD-80 to MD-89 and developed the MD-11 on the basis of the DC-10.

Aircraft in categories such as these need to sell between 400 and 500 units before they recoup R & D costs and break even. The A 300 and A 310 Airbus is not expected to reach break-even point until sales top 700.

In 15 years the Airbus consortium has sold only 392, whereas Boeing can expect to have sold over 1,000 Jumbos by the turn of the century — and the Jumbo arrived on the market at roughly the same time as the first Airbus.

Over 1,800 Boeing 727s have been sold, and the 737, especially now its extended version, the 737-300, is available, can expect to do even better, having already sold well over 1,500 units.

The Airbus is faring better, of course. The A 320 can definitely lay claim to having achieved a breakthrough. It will not be available until early in 1988 yet 100 have already been sold and options been taken out for a further 157 units.

If the Airbus had already sold runs of between 1,000 and 2,000 units like Boeing, the consortium would not need to go cap in hand to member-governments for repayable subsidies to fund research and development.

It would at least have long repaid previous subsidies and might well be in a position to fund the development of new models from profits — like Boeing does.

This point was made by Airbus president Jean Pierson, who said the investment now approved by the supervisory board would be the last major effort needed to fill the gaps and market a full "family" range.

The consortium hopes that in being able to supply an aircraft to meet every need it will at long last be able to manufacture long runs.

But it must first make sure of meeting deadlines as demand picks up. Boeing currently complete 26 airliners a month, as against the three a month completed in Toulouse, and Airbus production is unlikely to improve this year.

So even by the Airbus consortium's own terms of reference break-even point is still nowhere near the horizon. It will probably not be reached much before the turn of the century.

So it is still for politicians to decide — on the European taxpayer's behalf — whether or not to foot the "family" bill.

Helmuth Uebbing

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 1 February 1986)

Continued from page 7

they tried to prevent a price explosion by the same methods and failed.

There are hints the Saudis' disciplining action is having some success, however. Opec member Iran has annouced that from the beginning of next week the country will discontinue contracted shipments of oil exports because of "a difference of opinion with customers about price."

The Soviet Union has announced that it will cut back on oil production and Egypt has said it will reduce daily extraction from 150,000 to 100,000 barrels. Mexico is making moves to join the Organisation of Oil-producing Countries.

The decisive factor will be, however, how Britain and Norway react. Last week Norway's Oil Minister Kaare Kristiansen intimated that Norway would cooperate with the Opec to limit oil production.

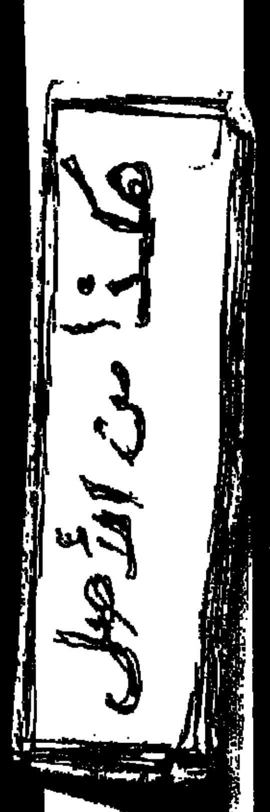
But this would pre-suppose that Britain also did so.

Sheikh Yamani praised his Norwegian colleague for his "pragmatic and realistic attitude."

Sheikh Yamani will be finding out for himself if the British will go along with him. It has been reported that he is soon to meet the British Energy Secretary Peter Walker.

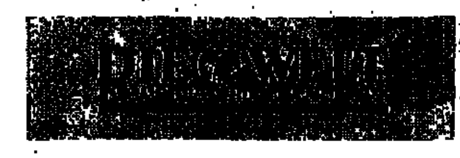
Peter Christ

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 31 January 1986)



■ THE CINEMA

The late Lilli Palmer, cool beauty and perfect lady



Screen star Lilli Palmer, who has died in Hollywood aged 71, was backstage in Darmstadt on 30 January 1933 when the world learnt that Hitler had been appointed Reich Chancellor in Berlin.

The theatre manager, or so the story goes, tried to reassure Jewish actors and actresses who felt sure that the news from Berlin was bad indeed for them.

Only Lilli Palmer, a young actress who never for a moment denied her Jewish blood, was cool, calm and collected.

Asked by the manager how she viewed the situation, Frau Palmer (her real name was Lilli Maria Peiser) simply said: "I'm going to learn English double quick."

It was a reaction typical of a woman who was cool, level-headed and a match for any situation in life.

She didn't bother waiting to see whether the Nazis' bite was as bad as their bark. She and her sister headed straight for Paris, where the Moulin Rouge was on the lookout for occasional straight routines.

The Palmer Sisters were welcomed with open arms; not for ages had the French seen such pretty Viennese girls.

Lilli will have recalled with quiet gratitude the hard years she had spent at German provincial theatres after studying drama under Ilka Grünung and Lucie Höflich.

During her stage apprenticeship she had been expected to play virtually any part for which she might possibly be suited: from Eliza Doolittle in George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion* to the female lead in a light opera such as Eduard Künneke's *Glückliche Reise*.

Yes, she could sing as well as act, but she didn't have to for Alfred Hitchcock, who had been happy with Anny Ondra (who was later to marry Max Schmeling) in his first talkie, *Blackmail*.

Continental actress Lilli Palmer proved no less satisfactory. She starred along Peter Lorre in his *Secret Agent*.

In London, where the cool beauty of a perfect lady has always been admired, Lilli Palmer was suddenly in demand for both stage and screen roles.

She later moved to America with Rex Harrison, whom she married in 1943, and soon ranked among Hollywood's sophisticated ladies such as Irene Dunne, Barbara Stanwyck and Bette Davis.

She was in a woman of the world category, a grande dame who understood everything and could forgive much.

But she had no immediate plans to return to post-war Germany, which was well on its way to becoming a Germany different from the one she had left.

She and Rex Harrison triumphed on Broadway in 1949 in Shaw's *Caesar and Cleopatra*. She later starred alongside Peter Ustinov in *Love and the Four Colonels*.

So many highlights merit mention in Lilli Palmer's amazing career. After further films in Hollywood and London she finally won the award she so richly deserved: best screen actress of the year at the 1953 Venice film festival.

Separation from Rex Harrison may have hurt, but she will have been consoled to find that Germany welcomed her back with open arms in 1954.

Nearly every film she made was a success, especially *Feuerwerk* (Fireworks), *Anastasia*, *Mädchen in Uniform* (Girls in Uniform) with Romy Schneider, and *Eine Frau, die weiß, was sie will* (A Woman Who Knows What She Wants).

She was definitely a woman who knew what she wanted. She married a man years younger than herself, Carlos Thompson, and wrote best-selling books in her Swiss home. *Dicke Lilli, gutes Kind*, her first book, told the tale of her childhood and early years. Her last novel, *Wenn der Nachtvogel stirbt*, is to be published in March.

She was clearly delighted with the many awards she went on to win in Germany: the Federal film prize, the Federal Order of Merit and the Golden Camera. She was even more delighted by the unstinting admiration of a grateful public.

She celebrated her 70th birthday in a Hollywood studio where an episode of *Loveboat*, a series that can now be seen on cable TV (SAT 1) in Germany, was being shot.

"I first met her in a Hamburg studio in 1959 during work on a film version of Shaw's *Mrs Warren's Profession*.

At her 70th birthday party, the second time I was privileged to see her, she was overwhelmingly cordial and seemed as composed and beautiful as ever.

It was a homecoming. Older stagehands at the Goldwyn Studios on Santa Monica Boulevard who had worked with many years earlier were amazed, saying how beautiful she still was.



Lilli Palmer . . . a match for any situation. (Photo: Sven Simon)

In the *Loveboat* episode she was a successful writer who made the transatlantic crossing to England by sea with her daughter.

"It may not be much of an intellectual challenge," she confided, "but it's great fun." She had no qualms about starring in a soapbox opera of the kind that is the bread and butter of commercial TV.

Next to no-one knew how ill she was. Last year she starred in a four-part American TV film about Tsar Peter the Great, much of the location work being shot in Russia.

Ill or not, she soldiered on at temperatures as low as -25° C.

She died in Hollywood. Did she return for the premiere or was she hoping an American specialist might be able to help her? We may never know.

All we know is that the world must mourn the passing of a sophisticated lady and that women in this category are few and far between.

Werner Baecker

(Die Welt, Bonn, 30 January 1986)

Black-and-white films feed the seven-year itch

This year's seventh Saarbrücken film festival season was more popular than ever. The proverbial seven-year itch seems to have sent cinemagoers flocking to the box office.

The films they saw were entries by young German filmmakers for the Max Ophüls Prize, and people even sat on the floor to watch them in full houses. So the much-maligned German film still has its fans.

It has certainly long ceased to be top-heavy and self-tormenting. There may be darkness among the light, but there is no lack of talent or ideas, as Saarbrücken showed.

The best entries this year were in black and white. Young directors deliberately set out to provide a contrast to the picture postcard world of video clips and glossy, no-expenses-spared productions.

They told very personal tales in imagery of their own, yet left ample scope for the viewer's imagination.

The first prize, now worth DM25,000, was deservedly won by Pia Frankenberg of Hamburg for her *Nicht nichts ohne Dich* (Not Nothing Without You), a title taken from a poem by Erich Fried.

It is a film that created a stir at both the Venice and the Hof film festivals.

Imaginatively and on a note of self-irony, Frau Frankenberg presents doubtless autobiographically-tinged scenes from the life of a woman filmmaker (played by herself).

She suffers from being rich and superficial. Yet she is seen to be an amiable person as she stumbles through weird situations and delivers monologues about life, men and the world at large.

She is zany and chaotic, as is her friend Alfred, played by Klaus Bueb, a model of intellectual confusion.

The director shows not the slightest respect in poking fun at the educational earnest of the modern German women's film, yet she is in no way insulting.

Her film clearly testifies to the fresh breeze of improvisation it was filmed with. It is intelligent fun on a serious subject that enables viewers to laugh at themselves.

Schwarz und ohne Zucker (Black and No Sugar) by Lutz Konermann of Munich, which was awarded the special prize, deals with travel. It starts in Iceland and ends in Sicily.

En route, in Italy, Hermann, a German film director, gets to know Edda, who is on the road with her Icelandic street theatre company.

A love story seems to be in the offing yet never really gets going. Konermann, whose first film, *Aufdermauer*, won him the 1983 Federal film prize, has made a first-class road movie.

It tells the tale of two northern Europeans on their travels round southern Europe. It is full of surprises and unexpected developments. It is filmed in magnificent Cinemascope on a melancholy note.

Noah und der Cowboy (Noah and the Cowboy), the first film by young Swiss filmmaker Felix Tissi, also deals with leaving home.

It tells the tale of a dropout in the Berne hills and does so impressively with its true-to-life dialogue and deadpan wit.

The one dropout has been deserted by his wife, the other has been thrown out of his band. They met more or less by chance and head off to an unknown destination in the hills of French-speaking Switzerland.

It is a film that effortlessly unfolds its figures with small gestures and imparts the relaxed atmosphere in which it was made to the viewer.

Va Banque, the first full-length film by Diethard Küster of Berlin, met with a mixed response. It is a big city thriller, featuring a bank robbery and a surprising happy end.

Great things were expected of *Va Banque*, partly because of its all-star cast. Minor parts are played by Joschka Fischer, the Hesse Environment Minister, as a taxi driver and rock singer Willy "Mink" de Ville as a billiard player.

The leading parts, sad to say, are slightly pallid, creating a somewhat geometrical effect. Yet the film is both exciting and amusing, with good music by Achim Reichel, who plays one of the leading roles.

Entries from the GDR were shown at Saarbrücken for the first time this year, and they met with keen interest.

Ete und Ali by Peter Kahane and *Ab heute erwachsen* (Of Age From Today) by Gunther Scholz testify to a fresh breeze in the GDR cinema, wittily and realistically telling tales of conflict in everyday life under socialism.

Ete und Ali, which won the prize awarded by the interfilm jury, are two friends just demobbed from the Army and finding it difficult to reaccustom themselves to life in a small town in Mecklenburg.

Everyday life no longer seems to succeed. The film stimulates our curiosity and paints a warts-and-all picture of life in the other German state.

A strikingly frequent feature of Saarbrücken entries this year was the GDR and the division of Germany.

There were no fewer than three films dealing with East-West (German) problems, the most successful being *German Dreams*, made by Lienhard Wawrzyn of Berlin.

Dealing with a mother and daughter who have left the GDR to start a new life in the West, it feelingly tells the tale of dreams of the Golden West and the sobering reality of life on this side of the Wall.

Mother and daughter struggle to reconcile their hopes of a new life and the feeling they have that they simply must return to the GDR.

German Dreams, co-produced by *Westdeutscher Rundfunk*, should soon be screened on TV. But it would be good to see it and other Saarbrücken entries at the cinema.

Peter Paul Huth

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 January 1986)

■ MUSEUMS

A memorial to Frankfurt's rich Jewish history

A museum dealing exclusively with Jewish history and culture is to open next year in the Rothschild Palais in Frankfurt.

The museum is to be run by Georg Heuberger, who was born in 1946 to Polish Jewish parents. He will be leaving his post at Heidelberg University, where he is a specialist in Jewish affairs.

So, 40 years after the persecution of the Jews by the Nazis, there is to be a Jewish museum.

Other museums have sections dealing with the topic both in Germany and in other European countries. But most specialise: for example Basle concentrates on ritual objects; Paris on art; Amsterdam on the Jewish resistance; and Cologne's Germania Judaica Library on literature.

There is nothing in Europe comparable to what is planned for Frankfurt,



Georg Heuberger . . . a shock up his sleeve.

says Heuberger. It is not accidental that the museum is to be in Frankfurt.

There used to be a Jewish museum on the banks of the Main in Frankfurt. Before the Second World War the Jewish Museum of Antiquities was there.

Items from the collection were transferred to America and Israel after the war, where the largest Jewish museums are to be found.

After the Nazis the first Society for Research into Jewish Works of Art was established in Frankfurt.

Heuberger says that in the past few years there has been a lot of support in Frankfurt for re-establishing contact with the city's former Jewish citizens. Every year Jewish emigrants, refugees or displaced persons are invited back to the city for a visit.

The memorabilia that these visitors have brought with them has encouraged efforts to set up a Jewish museum.

Frankfurt has a rich Jewish past. The museum will encompass Jewish history from the first half of the 12th century to the present day.

It is true that Berlin's Jewish community was larger and Cologne's older, but nowhere has there been a Jewish ghetto with such a continuous history as Frankfurt's Judengasse.

The building plans for the Judengasse dating from 1711 are still in existence and it is from these that the street, completely gutted by fire, has been partly reconstructed for the museum.

Museum visitors will be able to go through a gateway to the houses and shops and see most of the Judengasse as it was.

Other themes to be covered include the assimilation, emancipation and integration of the Frankfurt Jews.

Heuberger said: "We want to draw attention to the considerable achievements made by Jews in the arts, science and politics. We want to show the important contributions they made so that Germany could develop from a relatively backward country in 1820 to become one of the leading industrialised countries by 1933."

Heuberger will not deal with the frightful period between 1933 and 1945 in the conventional manner with a combination of text and pictures, usually inspected by museum visitors as a kind of duty.

He will endeavour to make visitors "emotionally in the right mood" to take in the information covering this period.

Heuberger is not too clear at present on just how he will do this. "Possibly with some kind of shock," he said.

The museum will give special attention to the "Displaced Person Camps" in the post-war period, because little has been done on them. The largest camp was located in Frankfurt.

Many Jews had to live in these camps until the beginning of the 1950s, before they could again lead "normal" lives.

The Jewish Community cannot be understood if no attention is paid to what Jews had to suffer in these camps after liberation.

Finally the question of anti-semitism in our times will be dealt with and how Jews react to this.

Heuberger said: "There is today a militant anti-semitism among certain youth movements that can be traced back to frustration, contrariness and protest. In terms of numbers it is random, but nevertheless it is dangerous and must be watched."

"I understand there are, for example," he continued, "graffiti at schools. That shows there is something in it. Care has to be taken."

The museum will mainly display memorabilia and explanatory material. But next to the historical factor a second, equally important aspect will be an introduction to Jewry itself. Information will be provided about feast days, customs, ritual objects, food and everyday Jewish life.

There will also be facilities for research and perhaps later an information centre covering Jewish sources in West Germany. Neither West Berlin nor Heidelberg have government funds enough for this purpose.

Frankfurt's Jewish Museum, part of the museum complex along the Main, will focus on Frankfurt itself.

Nevertheless assurances have been given that this will not be a "local" exhibition when the doors are opened in 1987. Frankfurt, in fact, will offer "an insight into Jewish history in Germany."

Heuberger said of this history: "The Germans must learn to accept the others, the foreigners, without disputing at the same time their loyalty and willingness to cooperate."

Martin Oehlen

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 23 January 1986)

Rothschild Palais in Frankfurt . . . will contain new Judengasse (Photos: Oehlen)

Organisers of peace exhibitions find unpeaceful relationship

There are three museums in Berlin dealing with the theme of war and peace. The anti-war museum is right next to the peace museum — although they are not connected — in the West Berlin suburb of Kreuzberg. In East Berlin, the Protestant Church runs a peace library and anti-war museum.

Pacifist and anarchist Ernst Friedrich opened the first anti-war museum in Berlin in 1923.

Apart from producing magazines and books he was responsible for the horrifying collection of photographs *Krieg dem Kriege*.

His activities for peace got him into court actions and prison.

After the Nazis came to power in 1933, he was arrested and held for seven months although he was seriously ill. Eventually, he had to go into exile. The Nazis closed down his museum.

Kurt Tucholsky wrote about the collection of photographs in the magazine *Weltbühne* in 1926.

He said: "These photographs of the battle fields, this knacker's yard of war, these photographs of war's destruction are the most frightful pictures I have ever seen."

A visitor to the present small museum in West Berlin goes into a kind of cellar. He is greeted by howling sirens, cases, a bucket filled with sand and an ancient first-aid box.

The carrier bag beside the door turns out to be a "cot-bed" for babies (built in 1943).

On the inside of an air-raid shelter door there are dates of 400 air-raid alarms, clearly written in pencil.

On the walls of the entrance hall there are hideous pictures of mutilated soldiers from the First World War.

The anti-war museum was again established in Kreuzberg district of West Berlin in 1982. Tommy Spree, a grandson of Ernst Friedrich and a teacher by profession, built it up with the aid of Peace Movement supporters.

But after two years, tensions developed. Most of those who gave their support to the museum wanted "a democratic organisation" to supervise it.

Tensions came to a head when Spree's colleagues were not prepared to come out and demand disarmament in the East as well as the West.

The final straw came when he wanted to display photographs of the war in Afghanistan.

In "the dead of night" he was able to commandeer a large number of the items on display and he established a new anti-war museum in the Wedding district of West Berlin.

The anti-war museum is next to the Kreuzberg peace museum, but they *have no connection with one another* despite the many similarities.

Visitors to the peace museum can see for themselves how many hand tools could be produced instead of a single firearm. There is a map of the world on the wall indicating all the points where there is currently fighting. The frightful results of conventional and nuclear war are clearly displayed.

There are documents from both world wars on display, including an official notification of a son killed in the action. There is also a collection of war toys along with a collection of anti-war literature.

A temporary show is planned in the peace museum dealing with arms and



the environment, and the anti-war museum plans to deal with the problem of civil defence.

Both small museums, supported by those who are wedded to anti-war causes, are being reconstructed. However, the very idea of peace is contradicted by the tensions and total lack of cooperation that exists between the two.

They could certainly be more effective for their aims, warning about war and strengthening the Peace Movement, if they worked together.

There is a third anti-war museum — in East Berlin. The Protestant Church has established a peace library/anti-war museum in St Bartholomews Church.

It is proposed to present there a collection of photographs dealing with the Dutch protest against stationing Pershing missiles in Holland.

Jost Meyen

(Vorwärts, Bonn, 1 February 1986)

■ THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

No more shops in Munich's city centre, urges report

Sociologists have alarming visions of Munich's commercial centre continuing to boom until it becomes intolerable for shoppers and they stop going there.

Town planners should halt the building boom before it boomerangs, they say.

A survey now out supports this. Infratest says more shops should not be built. Instead more land should be put aside for recreation. One of the reasons for the proposal is that shopping centres die at night.

Few would disagree that Munich is an attractive city. But growth is causing problems.

City-centre pedestrian precincts are so popular that more than 300,000 people a day elbow and jostle each other on the way through.

On late-closing Saturdays or the eve of public holidays the commercial centre becomes intolerable.

A survey on the city centre sounds an alarm that rings much louder than the 11 a.m. *glockenspiel* at the *Rathaus* on Marienplatz.

The Infratest survey's brief was to forecast the city's future up to and including 1995 in three scenarios: moderate growth and tougher competition as a commercial location, stagnation and a turnover crisis and high growth combined with yet higher purchasing power.

The conclusion in all three situations was that *no more planning permission* must be given for shop development of city-centre properties.

The proposed ban on more shops results from dramatisation of a fact that has long been lamented elsewhere: that shopping centres are stone dead at night.

Areas developed in this way grow steadily less attractive and lose their attraction as historic city centres.

The survey says more land must be earmarked as green belt and recreational areas. This is a point made by pedestrians questioned and even shopkeepers feel the need (alongside the extra parking lots they would welcome).

Munich's city centre is historically not just a shopping area; it is also an area where people like to linger.

If there were to be much more building this dual role would be in jeopardy and the city centre would simply be a tiresome are to get in and out of as fast as possible.

People would think twice before going there, while visitors would see the city centre as merely big, alien, hectic and confusing.

This would complete a vicious circle that would hit shopowners and traders particularly hard. A less attractive city centre would attract fewer shoppers.

An existing trend would be intensified as fast food chains, sex shops and supermarkets gained the upper hand in prestige locations.

Small shopkeepers are already having to close down because they can no longer afford to pay the rents asked. Councillor Uli Zech feels it is dangerous when shop rents are suddenly increased from DM30,000 to DM100,000 a month.

Such increases are by no means exceptional and certainly not just flights of fancy. The competition is already tough, with many established retailers failing to hold their own.

A ginger group known as *Interessengemeinschaft München* was set up four years ago. Mayor Kronawitter talks in terms of "cardboard commerce," which he says will prevail if standards continue to decline.

Social Democrat Kronawitter has been promised by Bavaria's CSU Prime Minister, Franz Josef Strauss, that the *Land* government will do its best to persuade the Federal Transport Ministry not to license any more slot machine parlours near the main railway station.

Applications have been made to the district authorities for permission to open 14 slot machine parlours with 42 one-armed bandits. The correspondence has already filled several files.

The Kassel-based company that runs slot machine parlours on behalf of Deutsche Bundesbahn, the German Federal Railways, is said to be considering litigation to ensure it can go ahead with the plans.

If it were allowed to develop in a negative manner Munich's city centre would end up a centre of trivial entertainment, supermarkets and department stores. The specialised shops that make up so much of its flair would fade and die.

The chamber of commerce and industry and the retail traders' association have long realised that Bavarian SPD plans for commercial rent control for small shopkeepers are not a bad idea.

Fifty-seven per cent of shopkeepers can be served three months' notice to quit: a time-bomb, as a retail traders' spokesman puts it.

Retailers plan first to review the position with banks and insurance companies, who frequently own prestige shop and office blocks in prime city-centre locations.

An interesting finding reached by the survey is that private motorists who

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

shop in the city centre spend more than shoppers who use public transport.

Motorised shoppers may only make up 23 per cent of the total, but on average they spend DM318, as against DM193 spent by shoppers who come into town by bus or train.

Infratest recommendations on short-term action are based on two long-term scenarios suggesting what the situation may be in 2010.

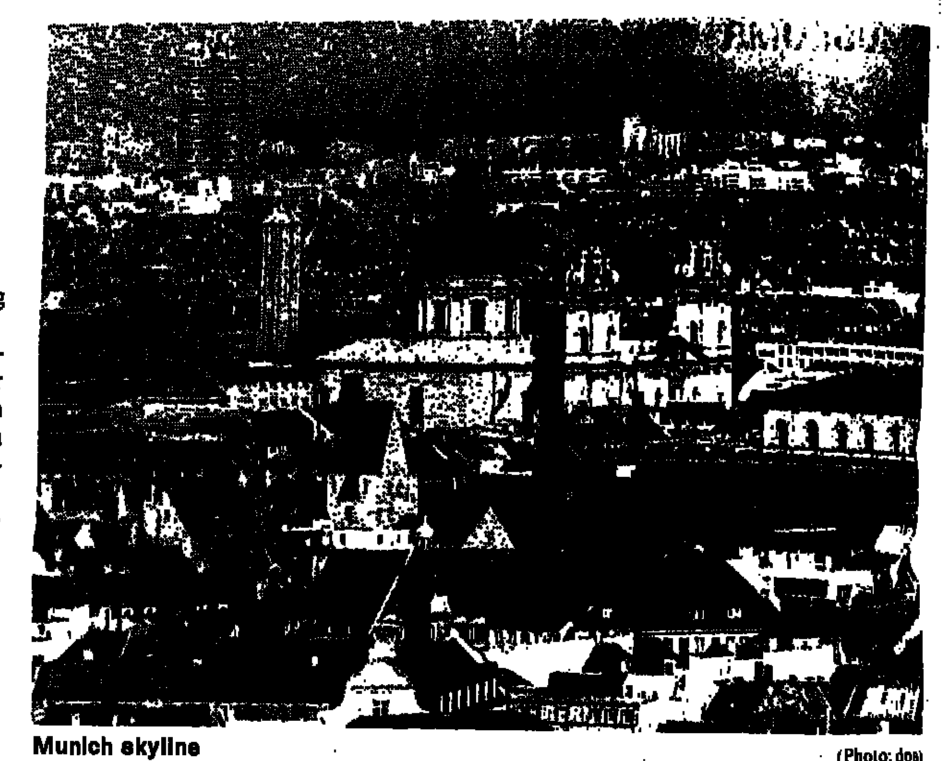
One assumption is, broadly speaking, that overall economic trends will continue to be favourable, the other that the trend will be unfavourable.

The optimistic view is that the turn of the century will mark the beginning of a new era of prosperity in which fresh and more varied use is made of the city centre, with more cultural events, including evenings, pleasant restaurants and flexible opening hours for shops and shoppers.

The gloomier scenario, based on an assumed end of growth, crisis management and adaptation, anticipates zero growth, lower turnover, a discount mentality and more limited range of goods on sale.

Gabriele Rettner-Halder

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 26 January 1986)



Munich skyline (Photo: dpa)

Planners rack brains to make tower blocks livable again

Town planners are trying to find ways of making high-rise housing less repugnant for people.

Since the heyday of tower blocks in the 1960s, when architects thought they had found the answer to housing problems, high-rise has fallen into disrepute.

People have become sick of vandalised apartments — a sign of social tensions — and dilapidated buildings and want to move back to more traditional forms of housing.

This is resulting in lots of tower-block *flats staying empty.*

Renovation is expensive, but it must be done if empty apartments built with government interest subsidies and tax relief to house poorer families are to attract tenants.

Christoph Zöpel, North Rhine-Westphalia's Social Democratic Minister of Urban Development, suggested demolition as the solution to high-rise housing that no-one wanted to live in — and promptly ran into trouble.

A spokesman for a Hamburg housing corporation said Herr Zöpel's off-the-cuff suggestion was a capitalist plan. Demolition, he argued, made housing scarcer.

Planners in North Rhine-Westphalia have since agreed with their counterparts in Berlin and Hamburg that a more painstaking and expensive approach is preferable.

Rents are to be reduced. Living environments are to be improved. Property is to be renovated. The aim is to make high-rise blocks more attractive to live in.

A spot check of nameplates on the Chorweiler estate in Cologne, built in the 1970s, showed as recently as early last year how serious the problem was.

Up to 15 per cent of the 6,700 housing units were vacant. As a result the city council, the *Land* and the owners decided for once to join forces financially and planningwise.

Their joint approach, successfully under way since last May, is based on a three-point plan:

- Rents have been cut by between three and four marks per square metre by means of roughly DM20m in subsidies.
- Trees have been planted and lawns laid. Waste land has been converted into allotment gardens.
- More social workers have been allocated to Chorweiler to help make life more worth living in the high-rise dormitory suburb.

In Hamburg the municipal housing corporation faced similar problems in Steilshoop, where by 1984 135 out of 802 apartments were vacant. Up to DM12,000 per unit has been spent on modernising what a spokesman described as run down, junk housing.

The most serious problem was that Steilshoop was slowly but surely being transformed into a slum. So 18 social workers were sent in to cater for young people in particular.

The kids were offered pocket money in return for minor repairs and work perhaps best described as generally sprucing up the area. They were encouraged to take pride in Steilshoop and not just vandalise it.

One hundred vacant apartments were found new tenants by means of a large-scale advertising campaign and rents reduced by one mark per square metre.

Berlin's Märkisches Viertel with its 17,000 apartments, long a byword for how not to build a housing estate, has less trouble with vacant apartments than with its generally drab and monotonous appearance.

The company that manages the estate has tried to spruce it up at considerable expense in a bid to stem the tide of tenant fluctuation.

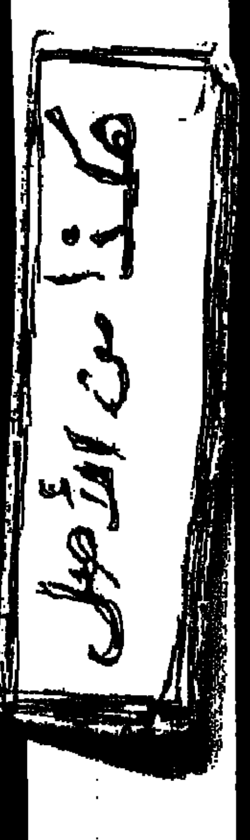
Former and current planners, local politicians, a sociologist and three tenants were the founder-members of an advisory council set up in 1983 to supervise the programme.

The Federal and city governments and the housing corporation invested roughly DM9m in refurbishing the high-rise blocks up to 18 storeys tall. Now grey concrete has been painted white the estate has been nicknamed the White Giant.

Changes tenants favoured have included wider entrances to apartment blocks, fresh elevator facia, storey buttons at a height children can reach and trees and flowers to make the surroundings more attractive in summer.

Other improvements have included three apartments where guests can be housed temporarily on request, a com-

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■ MEDICINE

Warning that more people are becoming depressed

Depression, surgery to make people taller, drugs to impede growth, and ulcers were topics raised at this year's Cologne refresher course for doctors.

For 10 years the *Bundesärztekammer*, or General Medical Council, has run interdisciplinary courses to help doctors to keep up with developments.

This year's Cologne forum, held at the end of January, dealt mainly with the many faces of depression.

For the past two decades bouts of depression have steadily increased in number among both juveniles and adults, said Professor Paul Kielholz of Basle.

The World Health Organisation attributed the trend to breaks with tradition and the loss of religious ties.

Professor Kielholz referred to "frequent crass materialism accompanied by disregard for the emotions, the decline of the family, sexual conflict, loneliness and lack of real contacts with others."

Depression, he said, was unfortunately misused as a slogan. Doctors invariably had to distinguish between minor upset and sorrow and deep depression as a genuine illness.

Significant progress in biochemical research has given rise to hopes of biological identification of various forms of depression and treatment with organic substances to restore the balance.

Yet drug treatment will still need to be combined with psychotherapy.

Many children nowadays grow very tall indeed, but the problems of young people who don't grow are far more serious, said Professor Hans-Henning Matthiass of Münster.

This was particularly true of those under 1.20 metres (four feet) tall.

Doctors needed to keep an eye on progress in this sector and make sure patients were referred to specialists in time.

Surgery could make people up to 13 centimetres (five inches) taller, but it was complex and treatment took years. Complications often resulted, which was why surgery was the exception, not the rule.

Girls, said Professor Ferdinand Klimt, a Marburg specialist in sports medicine, often wanted to keep a boyish figure and the long legs and narrow hips that were ideal for gymnasts.

But they must be briefed on the problems that might arise as a result of taking growth hormones and oestrogen to impede growth (frequently prescribed for gymnasts, ice and roller skaters).

Professor Edgar Ungeheuer of Frankfurt said there was no drug that could yet definitely cure ulcers for good. General practitioners, interns, psychotherapists and surgeons needed to join forces to help patients suffering from ulcers.

The general practitioner in particular must be aware of the whole range of therapeutic possibilities so as to be able to give patients the right advice.

The best contribution patients themselves could make toward a cure was to give up smoking. A special ulcer diet in contrast was no use in either curing an ulcer or preventing a recurrence of the trouble.

Karlheinz Welkens

(Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf, 23 January 1986)

'Eat more fish and less meat'

Eating more fish and less meat may reduce the risk of dying of a heart attack or circulation trouble, specialists say.

Both initial biochemical experiments and clinical findings suggest that Western Europeans might do well to eat more fish, European and US heart specialists said in Munich.

Coronary fatalities are said to have declined markedly in number in the United States since Americans stopped eating so much red meat.

Heart attacks are virtually unknown among Eskimos, who traditionally live on a fish diet. This seems to be due to polyunsaturated fatty acids in fish that reduce the blood's tendency to form clots. *dpa*

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 31 January 1986)

Continued from page 12

munity centre in an old launderette and a local tenants' advice bureau.

Neuperlach, an equally notorious high-rise suburb of Munich, has no difficulty finding tenants. There is still a housing shortage (and a net inflow of residents) in the Bavarian capital.

Dorsten-Wulfen in the Ruhr seems likely to have the debatable distinction of boasting the first high-rise housing block in the Federal Republic of Germany to be demolished.

Only five of the 102 apartments are still lived in. The wind sweeps through the corridors. The outside walls are rusting fast.

North Rhine-Westphalia reduced rents by up to DM2.40 per square metre and refurbished the block in a bid to stop the rot. Experts are now checking whether the block can be insulated to limit the energy required to heat it.

It seems unlikely. North Rhine-Westphalia is prepared to write off the public funds invested and has applied to the Federal Housing Minister for permission to do so.

The Ruhr ruin could soon be the first 1970s high-rise block to be blasted off the map by means of explosives.

dpa

(Bremer Nachrichten, 13 January 1986)

Cancer growth is halted in lab tests

Cancer growth has been halted in experiments with laboratory animals at the Max Planck Brain Research Institute, Frankfurt.

Two women scientists made their discovery using a well-known drug that affects the brain, not the cancerous tissue.

They experimented with the drug, imipramin, after discovering strange *changes in the electroencephalograph* readings of rats fed on a diet of carcinogens.

The scientists, Alexandra von Metzler and Cordula Nitsch, outline their findings in *Naturwissenschaften* magazine.

They succeeded in analysing exactly and in detail the physiological cause of these changes: a drastic decline in the monoamine count in the hypothalamus.

Monoamines, such as noradrenalin, adrenalin, serotonin and dopamin, are hormones that act as "messengers" in the brain, of which the hypothalamus is part.

They normally play a part in ensuring a steady supply of physical and mental energy, in regulating concentration and emotional states and in sending people to sleep.

If cancerous growths are accompanied by a lower hormone count, then possibly cancerous growths could be brought to a halt by boosting the monoamine count.

People suffering from depression have for years been given imipramin, a drug that boosts the monoamine count.

As depression is caused by a serious monoamine deficiency, imipramin is a *classic drug used to treat depressive patients.*

The two scientists gave some of the cancer-infected rats a regular dose of either imipramin or a single monoamine to see whether their cancer was affected.

The results of six months of treatment were striking. All 15 rats treated with imipramin were alive and well, whereas 8 out of 10 untreated rats had contracted cancer.

It is hard to say what effect these laboratory findings might have on humans, but Frau von Metzler and Frau Nitsch are confident they are on the right track.

Clinical trials seem to confirm the results of treating rats with the drug.

Rolf Degen/df

(General-Anzeiger, Bonn, 18 January 1986)

The perils of a 'healthy tan' — natural or from a lamp

Sunbathers beware — especially people who rely on ultra-violet sunlamps for a "healthy" tan — says a Cologne skin specialist.

Professor Hans Merk, 36, was asked by a Cologne tax court to give evidence on the medicinal value of ultra-violet radiation.

The owner of a suntan parlour claimed that radiation was of medicinal value, which would entitle her to charge value-added rate at half the standard rate.

The tribunal ruled that ultra-violet radiation was of no medicinal value. Dr Merk had convinced the court that radiation, far from having a beneficial effect, could cause chronic skin and eye damage.

It might have a beneficial influence on the sunbather's state of mind and help to heal skin complaints such as acne, but medical supervision was then required.

Dr Merk said US dermatologists were campaigning against sunlamp treatment and the equation of a tan with health and success.

One variety of ultra-violet light unquestionably caused skin cancer. It was a variety that occurred in natural sunlight.

Sunlamps normally used a less dangerous variety, but American specialists felt overexposure to it too might cause cancer in the long term.

Ultra-violet radiation definitely had a harmful effect on "elastic fibre" in the skin. "The skin grows slack and puckered as in old age," Professor Merk says.

Hans Wüllenweber

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 31 January 1986)

■ CRIME

Shoplifters set off alarm bells — and so do the innocent as well, sometimes

There were 340,000 known cases of shoplifting in West Germany in 1984. Police believe there are 15 times as many undiscovered thefts.

If this is accurate, it means more than five million cases a year.

Retailers say that every year, 2 per cent of their stock remains unaccounted for. The bulk of this discrepancy is because of theft.

Shoplifting takes up a lot of police time and effort. The state is not quite sure if it should be de-criminalised or not.

Shopkeepers ring their hands when they do not catch thieves. Crime experts rack their brains about whether it is or is not a crime resulting from our affluent society.

People ask who is not itching to get his hands on things that are so aggressively advertised?

There is only one group that rubs its hands with glee — the manufacturers and dealers in security equipment.

And there is one other who can be pleased with himself — Rainer W. Wirsching.

His new books *Vorsicht an der Kasse* (Caution at the cashdesk) and *Die unheimlichen Aufpasser* (The weird watchdogs) — for former published by the Deutscher Fachverlag in Frankfurt and the other by the Peter Hohl Verlag in Ingelheim — give breathtaking glimpses into the workings of the retailers' and thieves' minds.

Management consultant Wirsching presents a view of the gigantic battle between shoppers and retailers over stolen goods.

Retailers used to say: "Where there is no stealing there is no selling." This is no longer a fashionable attitude.

Wirsching's books are manuals against shoplifting. *Vorsicht an der Kasse* gives an insight into the tricks thieves and swindlers employ.

Self-service might be taken as a play on words for shoplifters. But the subject is no longer amusing for either self-service stores or shops of the traditional variety.

Wirsching takes 30 cases whose insolent finesse would make the blood boil, and it is not only cashiers who will lose their faith in mankind on reading these books.

The thieves use hollow spaces in packing, they remove stuck-on labels or exchange them, even wrappings and lids.

The great trick is the "double sale". The thieves put identical goods in two trolleys in a supermarket. One pays and disappears.

The other thief goes back into the shop with the sales slip, picks up a bottle of rum, adds the bottle of rum to the second trolley of goods and makes out that he or she has returned just to pick up the rum.

The thief simply pays for the rum when there is a check made against the sales slip and the contents of the trolley. The second Wirsching book gives a bird's eye view of the battle between retailers and shoppers. Here there is considerable emphasis on electronics to keep the thief at bay.

Wirsching's information is often naive and undigested. This increases the book's appeal and sharpens the insight into the state of affairs in our retail trade.

In no way does the book condemn electronic goods control as was the case, recently reported in *Die Zeit*, of a well-off woman who under stress took to shop-lifting.

The book sings the praises of the high-frequency radio and electro-magnetic equipment that is offered for sale by a growing industrial sector.

This equipment is installed at store exits. The antennae can detect the store's own labels or magnetic tabs fixed to the goods, when the goods are not paid for (or when an assistant forgets to de-activate them).

The equipment then pips, howls, screams and gives the alarm that a shoplifter has been at work — in an ideal case, that is.

This technology is no longer new, and generally speaking it has over-come its teething troubles. The only aspect that is new is that it has been introduced into so many companies, mainly companies with a wide range of goods for sale.

Many shopkeepers are worried about this equipment, but they often feel forced by the amount lifted by thieves to do something about theft.

Figures show that 60 per cent of all shop-lifing cases involve goods valued at below DM25, and those who are caught can have the summonses put aside on payment of a fine.

Catching shop-lifters is an embarrassing and irksome business for shops and stores. There are a relatively high number of mistakes made, and sometimes the equipment catches not a thief but a completely innocent person.

There are bitter disputes at the stores' exits and companies are increasingly liable for compensation claims because



clumsy staff members have laid hands on people falsely accused of shop-lifting.

Thieves also cause trouble, particularly if they are of the violent variety. Thieves caught in the act frequently try to get out of the tight spot with uncouth behaviour and innocent people accused of shop-lifting are even more incensed.

In any case a shop manager knows that when the equipment is activated against a customer he will never see that customer again.

There are some retailers who regard active thieves, about whom little is know as regards their numbers, their impudence or the damage they do, as a minor problem.

They either refuse totally to install security equipment or they make a show of doing so with false security labels to frighten the thieves off until they get wise to the situation.

Wirsching calls these retailers "free-riders". They go through the motions of having security labels on their goods but are to stingy to go in for security investment proper.

Retailers of this sort have announcements made over the loud-speaker system such as "Detective 127. Please come immediately to cash desk 1," or "Police Officer Huber, please come to the exit."

Or an excited female voice announces over the system, "Dear customers, unfortunately we have just had to hand over a shop-lifter to the police. We appeal to you . . ."

Everything is faked. Wirsching reports that in one case a man, so conditioned to electronic labels, put back on the shelves a video-cassette because the price tags had been taken off.

In America a soft voice tells customers: "Be honest. Don't steal." Those who sell the tape-recording maintain that it puts a stop to as much as 65 per cent of shop-lifting. Many businessmen will have nothing to do with these weird watchdogs, because they know that their own staff are responsible for a considerable percentage of store theft. These businessmen would rather employ a store dectective who can be sacked.

Electronic equipment for a large store costs about DM30,000 and this could in no way offer security for all articles in a wide range of goods.

The success of these systems is the central theme of Wirsching's book. Many business people report a 70 per cent reduction in store theft. In fact electronic equipment reduces theft from between 40 to 60 per cent, mainly by frightening possible thieves off. Shopowners make great play of their security system.

The only ones who have a really safer security system are shoe shops. Wirsching reports on one.

The system gave appalling trouble and went off between three to five times a day.

The owner of the shop had to make apologies when the alarm was set off by electronics or hearing-aid glasses.

When a thief was caught there was a scuffle at the shop's entrance.

The owner said: "Many thieves threw the shops at my head as they made off or just left them in the street."

When a thief is swallowed up in the crowd there is nothing that can be done.

The shoe dealer has had to make 78 summonses in a year, quite extraordinary.

Slightly shaken he has returned to the "one shoe system", displaying only one shoe of a pair, the security system used before electronic equipment was installed.

This resulted in no more shop-lifting, no alarms, no chases after thieves and no summonses. No one can do much with one shoe of a pair.

Other retail shops and stores do not have it quite so easy. They turn increasingly to one of the twelve systems that are on sale in this country.

If a greater effort is made against the normal thief will the crime rate drop?

According to Wirsching's book it should sink, although this is linked to a number of problems, for electronic watchdogs are fallible.

In Wirsching's book the following items are listed as being able to activate the alarm system: spectacle frames, buckles and clasps, wheelchairs, prams, vacuum cleaners, hearing aids, radios, a pin in the shin bone and a bullet in an old soldier's back.

These false alarms are made much of by customers and played down by retailers and suppliers. Furthermore cashiers forget to de-activate the labels.

Then an innocent person can be dealt with in the same way as a person under suspicion of theft.

When the alarm system breaks down or is idle the alarm system in another shop is sometimes set off by the label. That then creates complicated situations.

Wirsching's book is full of awful situations caused by false alarms. Some firms, named by name, act very inflexibly in these situations. There are reports in the newspapers, accusations, complaints and compensation claims.

He himself tells with a shudder how he has fallen upon by two hefty female shop-assistants in Heidelberg after a false alarm.

They tried to haul him, who weighs 85 kilos, back into the shop.

He appealed for witnesses but no one took any notice of him. He tore free and took pictures of the females. The photos did him no good but they did a lot for his book. This incident made him aware of the problem.

How justifiable are suspicions when the electronic equipment is activated? Is this a basis for suspicion? Must the customer then produce a sales slip and empty his or her bag? Have the alarm signals changed the burden of proof? Must the customer produce evidence of his or her innocence? Those who run [illegible] increase suspicion.

But what about those who do not run off? Only those who are experienced know what to do in this criticial situation, and there are not many of those.

Wirsching wants to put two questions to the *Länder* Interior Ministers. First, is the activation of a shop-lifter security system always grounds for police action?

Second, is a person who passes through an alarm system which is activated and declines to offer an explanation, suspected of being a shop-lifter?

There was no unanimity of opinion among the Interior Ministers. Five answered the first question with a Yes, two with No, and four were not clear.

Four answered the second question with a Yes, three with No, and four were vague.

This confusion about the law is not surprising because the equipment is just not reliable.

If there were no false alarms both questions could be answered with a Yes.

This means for the customer that there would be a vague basis for suspicion but not one firm enough to justify sales staff coming down with a heavy hand on customers.

Customers can refuse to make any explanation, the thief along with the innocent person.

For the police, however, there [illegible] grounds for suspicion and the person concerned must allow himself or herself to be searched. But this must be done in a polite manner, away from the general public, and in the belief that a person is innocent until proven to be guilty.

Clothes shops are now peaking into the trying-on cabins to see if a customer has got rid of a security tag. They apologise profusely but soon it will be quite unpleasant to go shopping to try clothes on.

Wirsching has made markings in his books for those who would like to know more about petty theft. The indications in the text show that more detailed information can be supplied.

Those who want this extra information have to pay DM375 to the publishing house and provide evidence that they want to use the book for business purposes.

The book itself has an electronic tag against theft — the first book to have this in West Germany.

Hanno Kühnert

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 24 January 1986)

■ HORIZONS

Hot nights behind Berlin Wall — secretary-spy reveals all

A former Bonn secretary has bared all in explaining why she spied for East Germany: she was paid "in the currency of love".

Dagmar Kahlig-Scheffler says when her nerves were shattered and she felt at the end of her tether and ready to throw in the whole spying business, she would go to East Berlin where a man would perform "a completely personal service" for several days and nights.

The man, known as both Herbert Richter and Herbert Schröter, also figures in the amours of at least one other Bonn secretary-turned-spy — Gerda Schröter-Ostenrieder even married him.

These confessions are not splashed over the pages of a tabloid newspaper but recorded on a video film produced by the Bonn government.

West Germany has constant problems with East German espionage. Last year several cases involving secretaries came to light. There were defections and arrests.

Secretaries in the West German ministries and armaments works throughout the entire land are regarded as prime targets for East Berlin intelligence.

Secretaries in Bonn are particularly prone (Bonn has a reputation for being a boring town with little night life and a lot of lonely women).

The film is designed to warn women to be on their guard against the charming womaniser: it shows just what can happen to secretaries with access to secret material when the love agents from the other side move in.

Frau Kahlig-Scheffler, now in her forties was at the Federal Chancellery in Bonn; Frau Schröter-Ostenrieder, now in her late 30s, was in the Bonn Foreign Office.

Both women, who have served their sentences and changed their names, are astonishing frank in front of the camera. Frau Kahlig-Scheffler says that her sojourns to East Berlin were "like being in a seventh heaven".

Gerda was 19 when she met the much older Herbert in Paris in the late 1960s. They got married and, for several years, she passed him secrets from the Foreign Office.

She says: "The I began to despise myself because my colleagues were being betrayed. And I had this terrible fear."

Eventually, the psychological pressure became too strong. She began drinking heavily and one day told a German journalist what she was doing. Then she told the authorities as well.

But beforehand she warned Herbert. Shortly afterwards, Herbert turned his attentions to Dagmar. She knew him as Herbert Richter.



Dagmar Kahlig-Scheffler . . . gave Herbert more than just information. (Photo: dpa)

She met him shortly before her divorce in 1973 when she and her daughter were on holiday in Bulgaria.

The young daughter was still distraught at having no father. On the beach, they met a fellow sunbather, an older, sympathetic man. He went swimming with the daughter and took them both to dinner.

It didn't stop there. "I developed a relationship with my controlling officer", says Dagmar, an attractive blonde.

The film has the message that it is never too late for secretaries caught up in espionage to go to the authorities before they get more deeply involved.

Dagmar didn't need to spy for money. Nor did lust for adventure play a role. "I wanted just one thing — security and a home."

The film also reveals how at this *time, at the beginning of the 1970s,* neither the Chancellery nor the Foreign Office made it particularly difficult for the two women to gain access to state secrets.

Gerda said no one checked up to make sure copies of secret cables had been destroyed.

Dagmar said the photocopying machine in the Chancellery was tantamount to an invitation for spies.

Peter W. Fischer/dpa

(Kieler Nachrichten, 24 January 1986)

Women's council speaks for 12 million

The German women's council keeps a low profile although it represents almost 12 million women in 42 different organisations.

It was founded in 1951 but still has problems in projecting its image as the women's lobby in the Federal Republic.

But it has accomplished a lot and has managed to hinder legislation for example, that might damage women's interests.

Its self-confidence can be seen in its demands for a separate women's ministry and for a woman state secretary in the Bonn Chancellor's Office.

It would like to see the political parties allocating at least 25 per cent of parliamentary seats and offices to women.

Trade unionist Irmgard Blättel says the council does not yet have real political clout. Sometimes it seems to be powerless, she says.

Because of the diverse nature of the people it represented, the council sometimes was a little like a convoy, where the speed was set by the slowest ship.

Although its constitution has been changed to allow younger people to emerge, it still labours under the notorious paragraph 3, which says that major decisions must be unanimous.

This is where the key roles of the larger member organisations come in — like the Catholic women's league, its Protestant equivalent, and the women's sections of the DGB (trades union federation) and the German sports federation.

The total [illegible] nisations is more than a million. Their voting weight is so heavy that nothing can be done without their agreement.

But the smaller members are becoming more assertive and the raised eyebrows of the ladies on the board can sometimes be seen as the little organisations make their point. Constructive criticism is often regarded as dirtying one's own nest.

A recent decision of the council was to call on all unemployed women who are not registered as unemployed to go along to the labour exchange and register.

The aim was to make the point that there are lot of women out there who comprise the great, silent battalions.

Angela Grützmann

(Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz, 1 February 1986)

Students and old people join forces to publish newspaper

Students and old people have joined forces to produce a newspaper called *Pro*, a 16-page bimonthly which brings news from old people's initiatives all over the country.

Ingeburg Seldte is the driving force [illegible] at 60 or 65 don't want to be cut off from the mainstream of life. They still feel they have a lot to contribute.

The need for the aspirations of old people to be put more strongly before the public was made two years ago at a meeting of a national organisation for old people. The Arbeitskreis Berliner Senioren assumed responsibility for a newspaper that became *Pro* — "pro" means "for", and therefore for old people.

But looking back, Frau Seldte says: "If I had known it was all going to be so full of problems, perhaps I would not have even bothered."

Money was the first problem. It took a lot of knocking on doors before a foundation came up with some cash and the Berlin Senate approved payment for setting and printing.

Frau Seldte and some of her fellow workers went to a course at the Free University of Berlin to learn about producing a newspaper including things [illegible] headline typefaces.

The first edition might not have been a masterpiece, but it was a start.

Andrea Laug, 27, thought it all a lot of fun. She is a nursing sister by profession, so already had a relationship with older people. She says old people are serious partners with whom it is possible to work with.

However Wolfgang Wack, 27, says it can be difficult. There was room for conflict because of the diferences in experience and attitudes.

Frau Seldte says both generations have a lot to learn from each other. The proof of the pudding was in the eating, and the paper had now been produced for a year.

Olaf Kumpfert

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 18 January 1986)

Too many 'being remanded in custody'

Many young people in trouble with the law are remanded in custody simply because there is no suitable alternative such as a juvenile home, says Professor Günter Albrecht, of Bielefeld University.

Sending someone to remand prison brought them in direct contact with criminals. The best way to help people avoid repeat offences was to abolish remand detention for the young.

An investigation in Lower Saxony had shown that only two thirds of youths remanded in custody were later given custodial sentences. Only a third actually had to serve out their full sentence.

Members of Parliament and lawyers have for many years been pressing for reform, especially for those in the 14 to 20 age group.

A survey by the Bonn Justice Ministry has shown that both young people and adults are arrested too quickly and spend too long investigative custody.

Justice Minister Hans Engelhard (FDP) says the Ministry is now considering whether remand in custody:

- can be even further reduced for trivial offences;
- should be used to prevent running away where a sentence of less than say, two years, is expected;
- should be made dependent on certain conditions.

In 1983, after a 14-year-old Turkish boy killed himself while being remanded in custody, the Lower Saxon Ministry of Justice called for a report on how children are effected.

Psychologist Monica Szeinhilper investigated 271 cases of remand in custody between 1977 and 1982 and found that:

- 40 per cent of the children had never before been in trouble;
- 37 per cent have not been in trouble since;
- 66 per cent were suspected of only minor theft offences;
- five of the 271 had tried to kill themselves.

Other reports also raise the suspicion that judges are too quick to order a remand in custody. A Freiburg criminologist, Frieder Dünkel, says that judges sometimes don't use remand strictly according to the law.

He says remand in custody is allowed when there is no alternative. But often judges keep people in prison:

- as a means of allocating them some sort of care;
- to prevent any chance of further offences;
- on the principle that punishment is going to follow in any case;
- to impress their authority on the proceedings;
- when the parents' home is unsuitable;
- or because juvenile homes in the area are occupied.

They are not allowed to use remand in custody for these reasons, says Dünkel. But he conceded that, in many cases, there were in fact no suitable juvenile homes.

Putting youths in care must not mean incarceration in a remand prison. Alternatives are using probation officers or social-workers.

The *Länder* must help by providing homes. It is a scandal that in North Rhine-Westphalia there are not even 20 places available for children as an alternative to remand prison.

Jürgen Diefenbäcker

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